

STRAIGHT
ARROW

NO. 27

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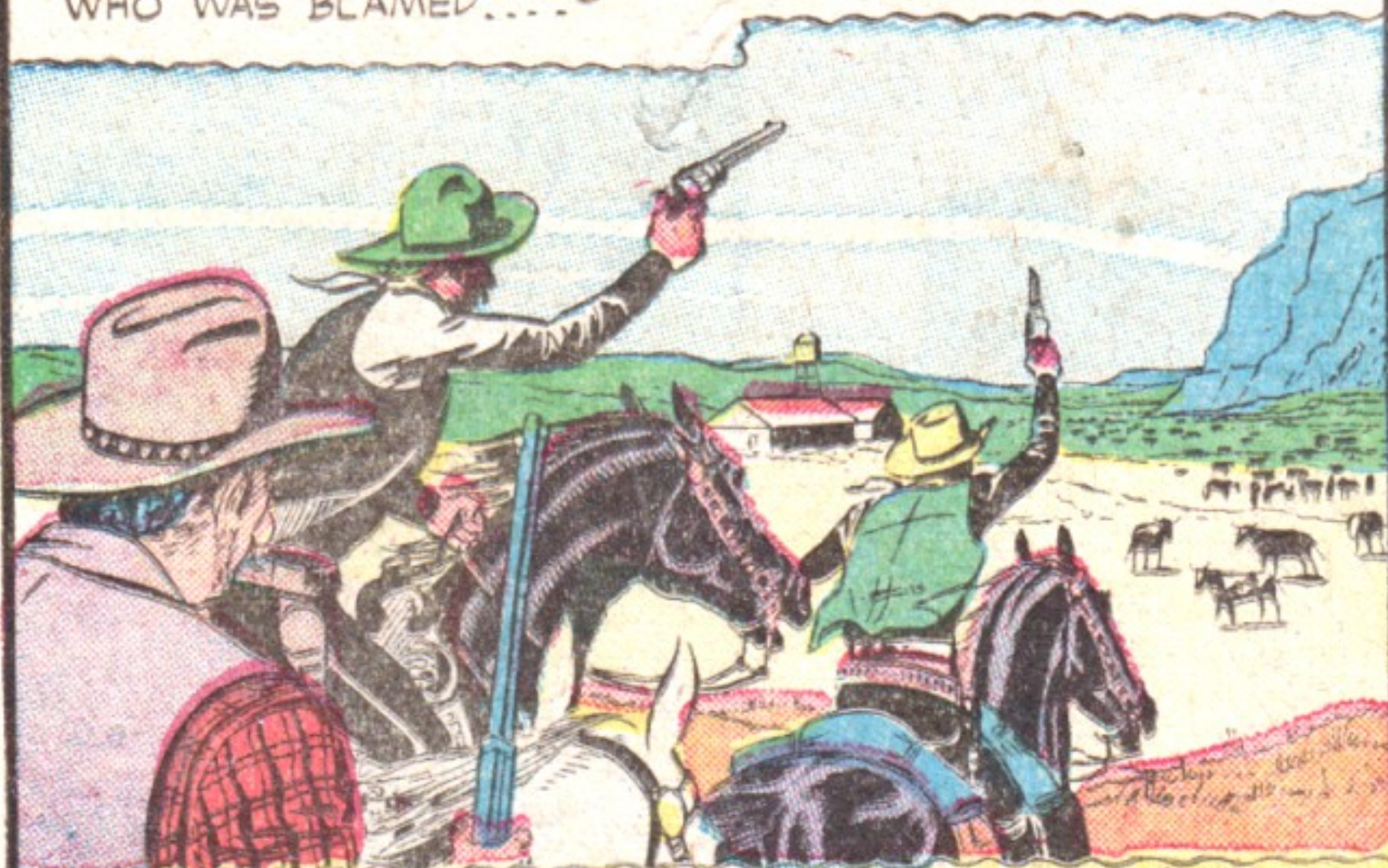
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WHEN "THE FIRE-BRAND" RUSTLED CATTLE FROM THE SUNDOWN VALLEY RANCHERS IT WAS **STEVE ADAMS** WHO WAS BLAMED....

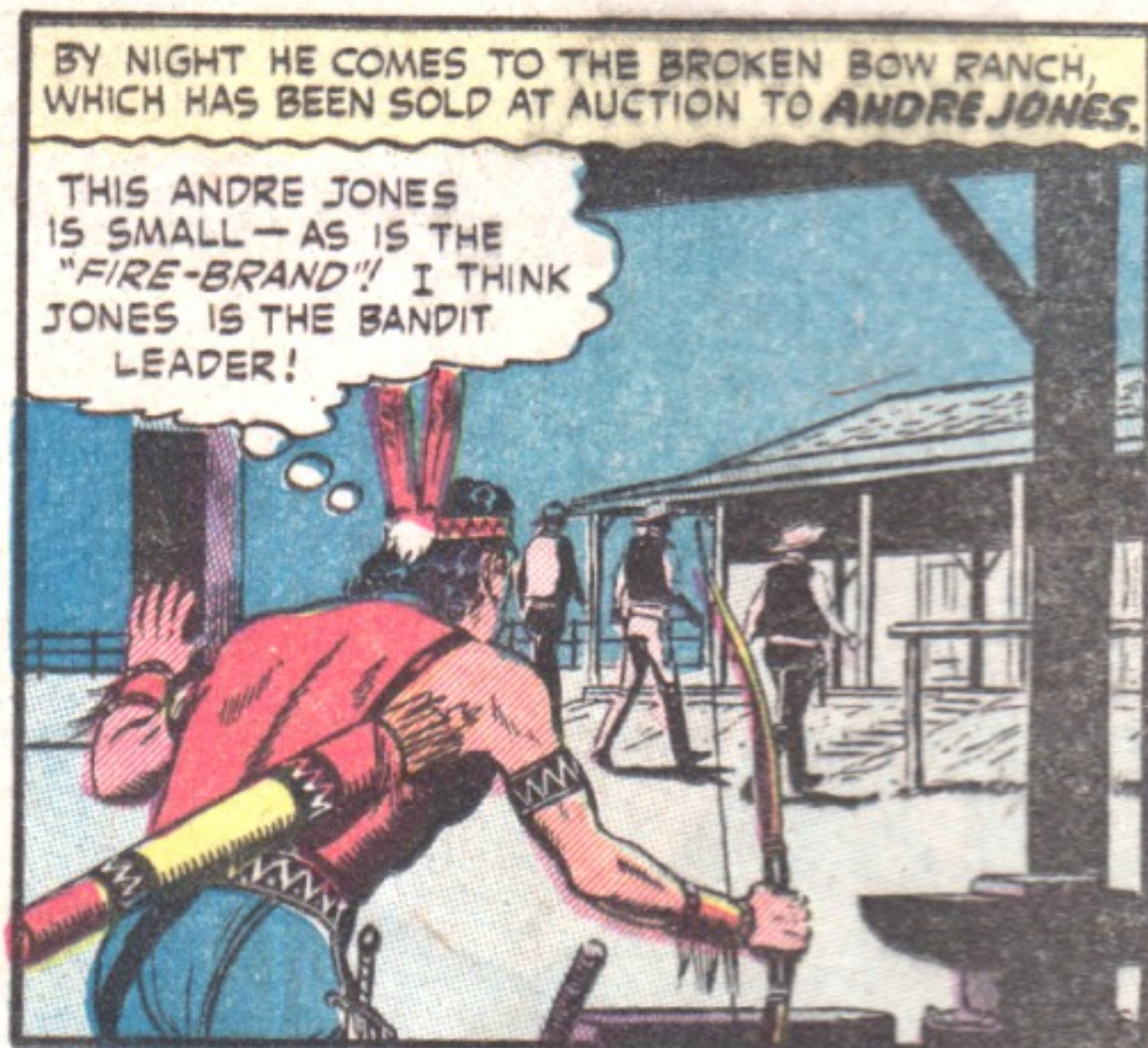
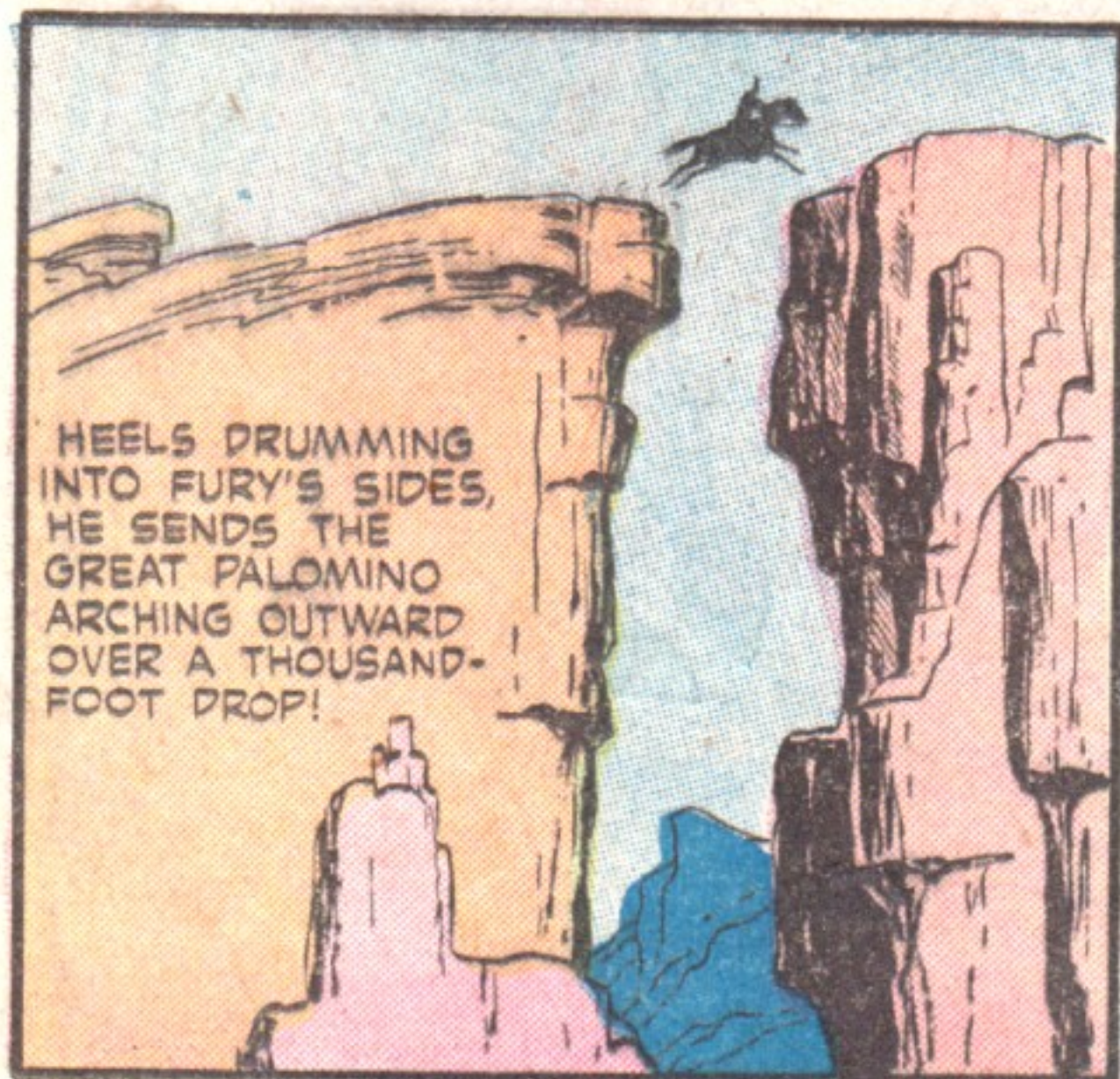
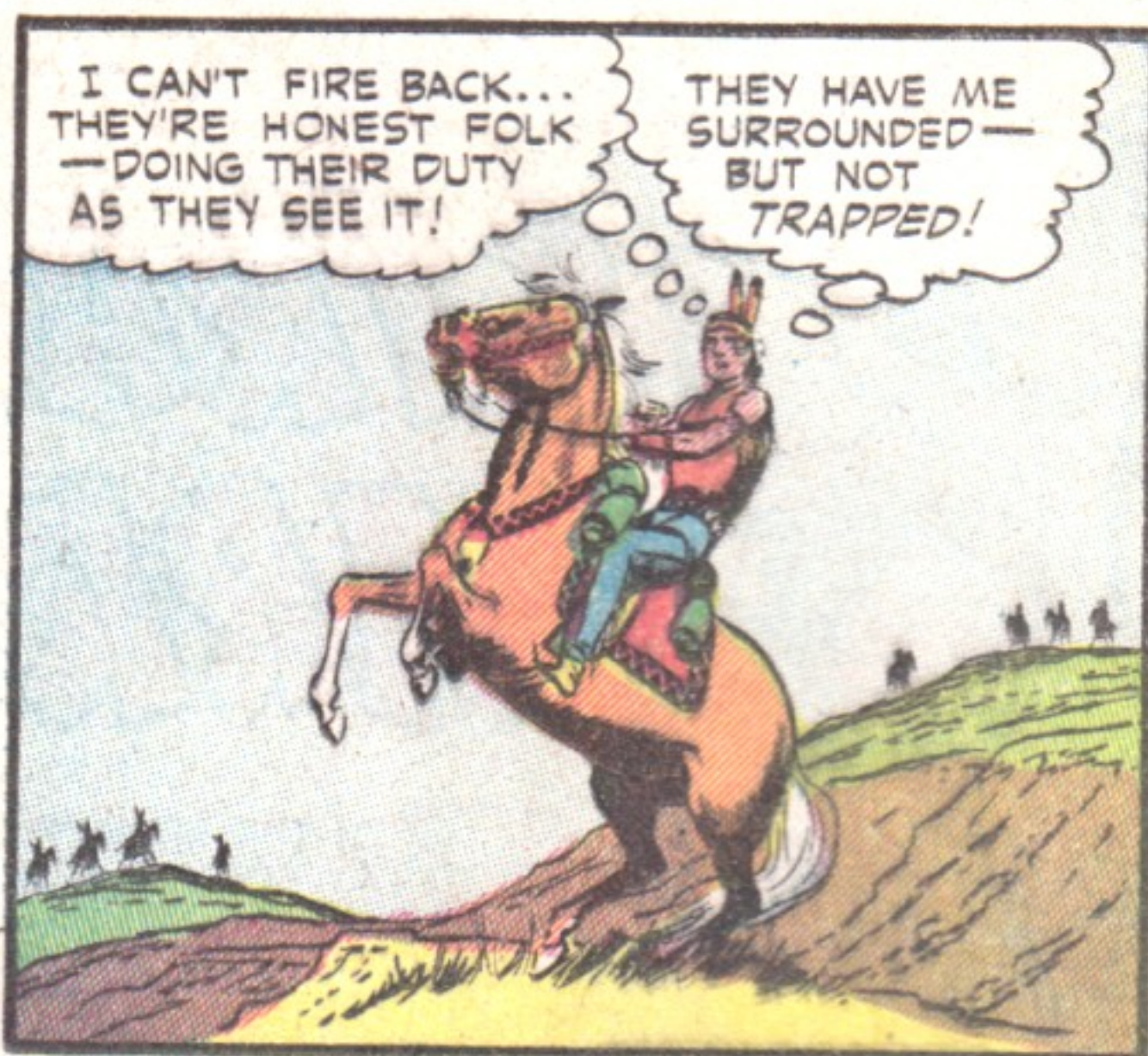
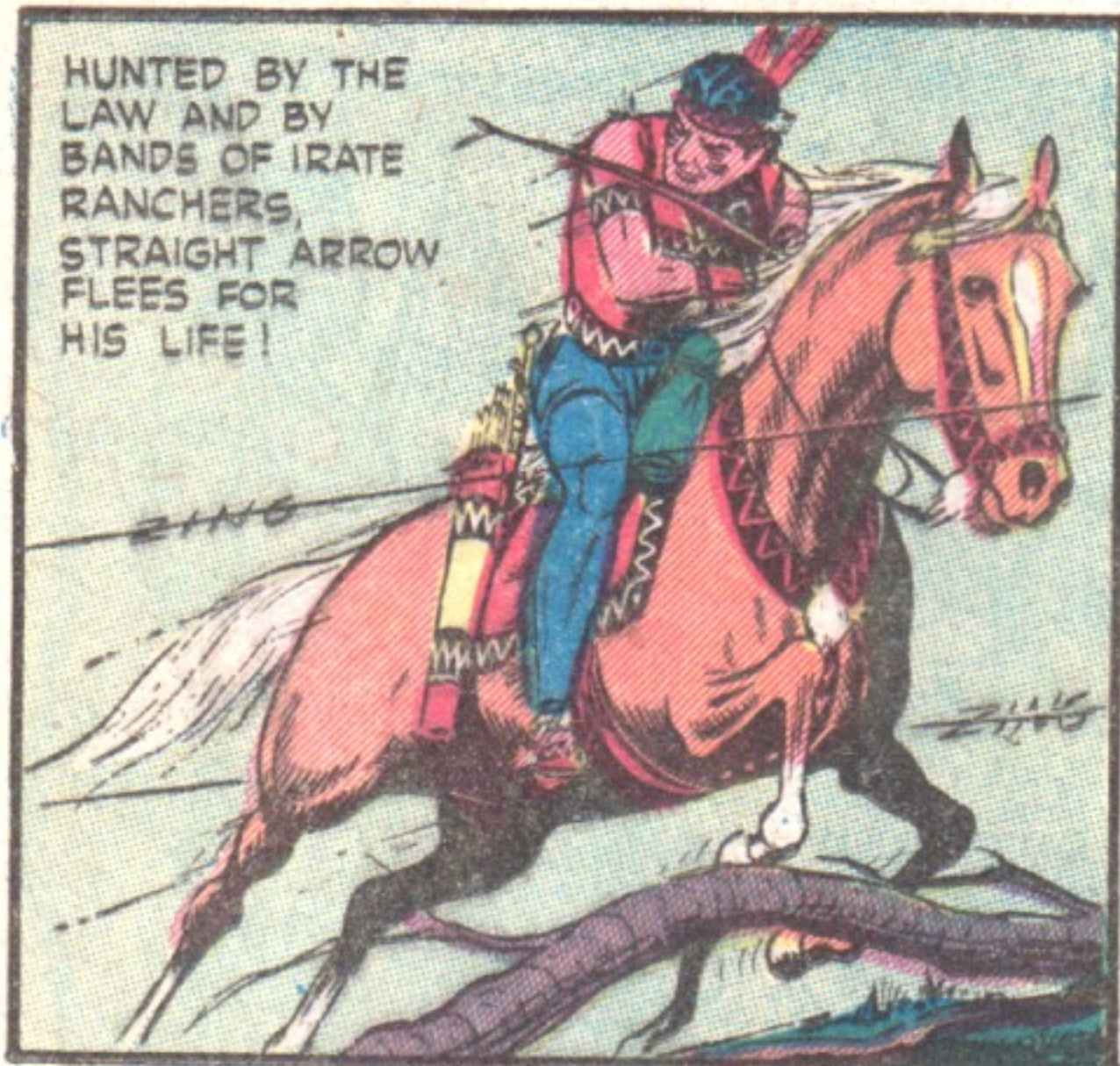


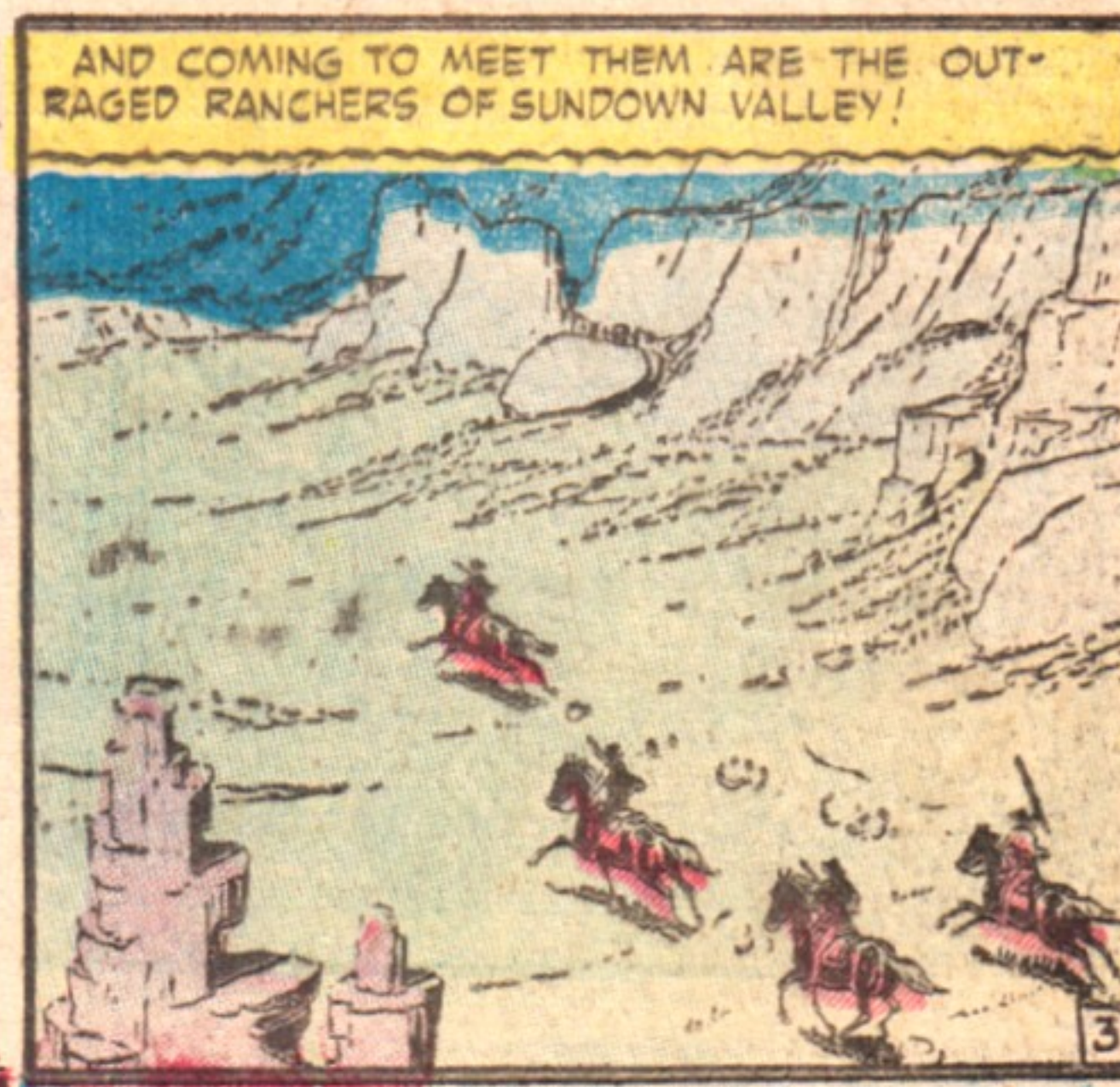
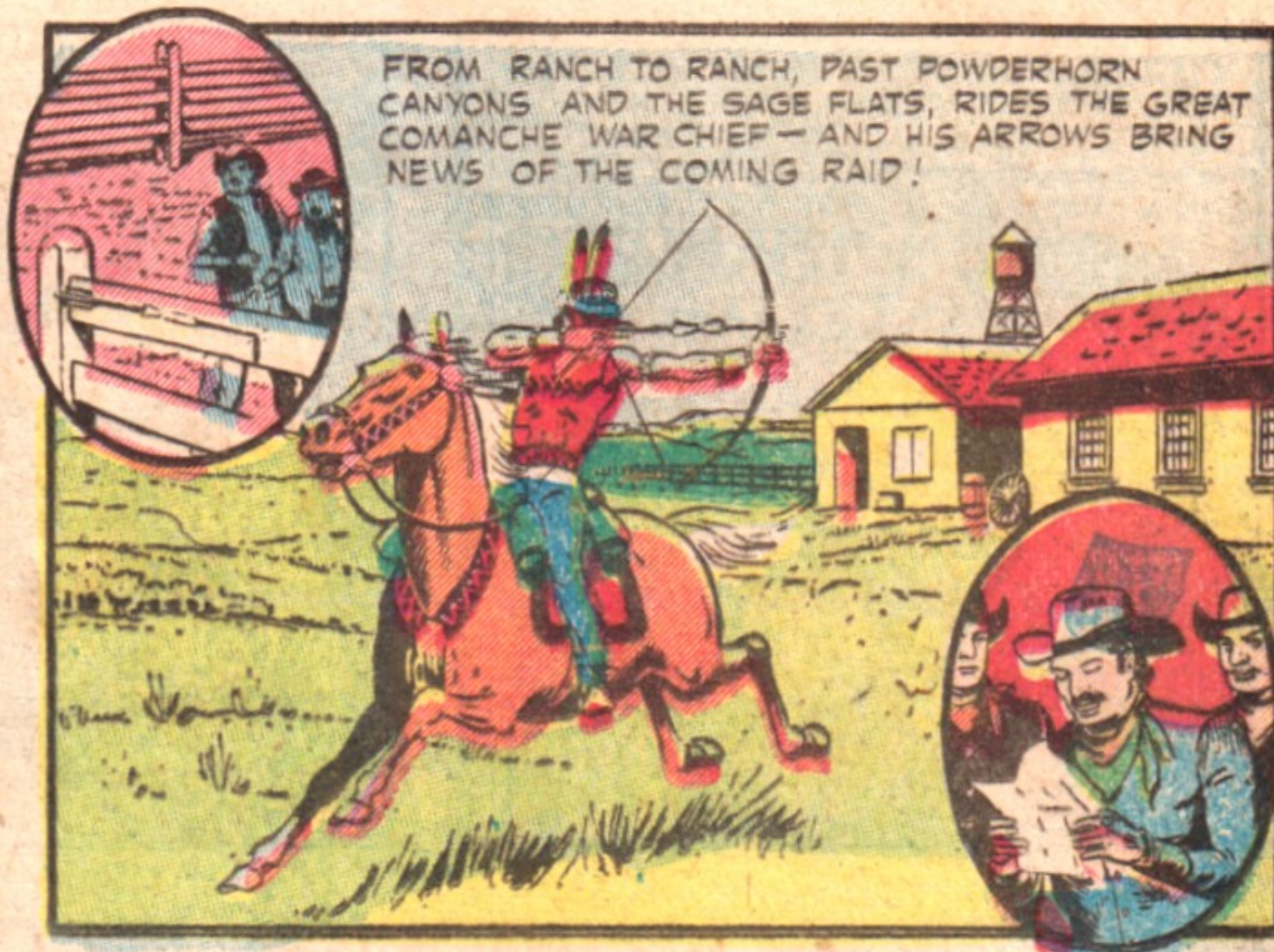
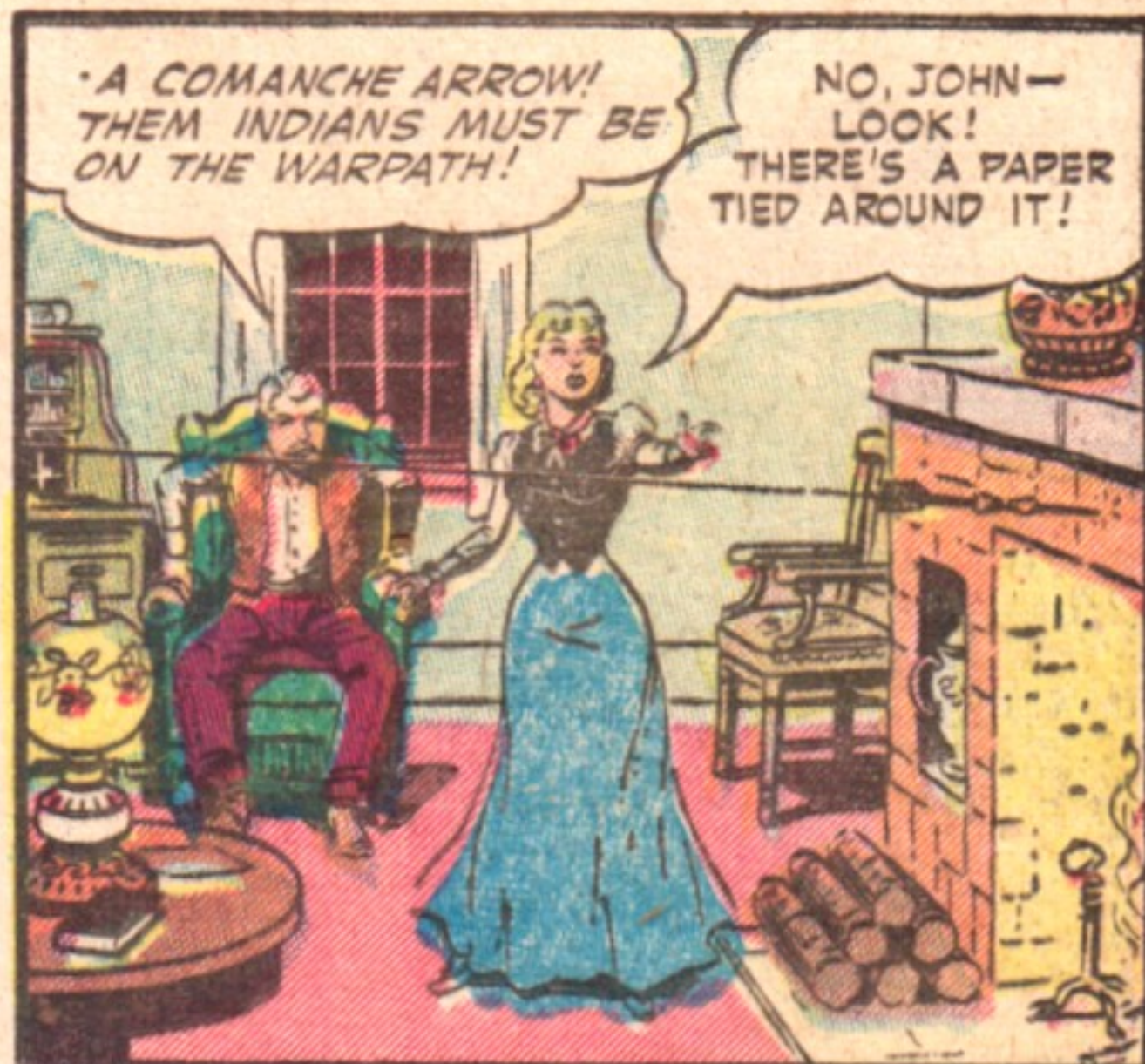
EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE **STRAIGHT ARROW #26**: "DEATH TO STEVE ADAMS!"

WHEN **STRAIGHT ARROW** ATTEMPTED TO CLEAR HIS ALTER EGO, [STEVE ADAMS], HE FOUND HIMSELF BLAMED FOR THE KILLINGS!

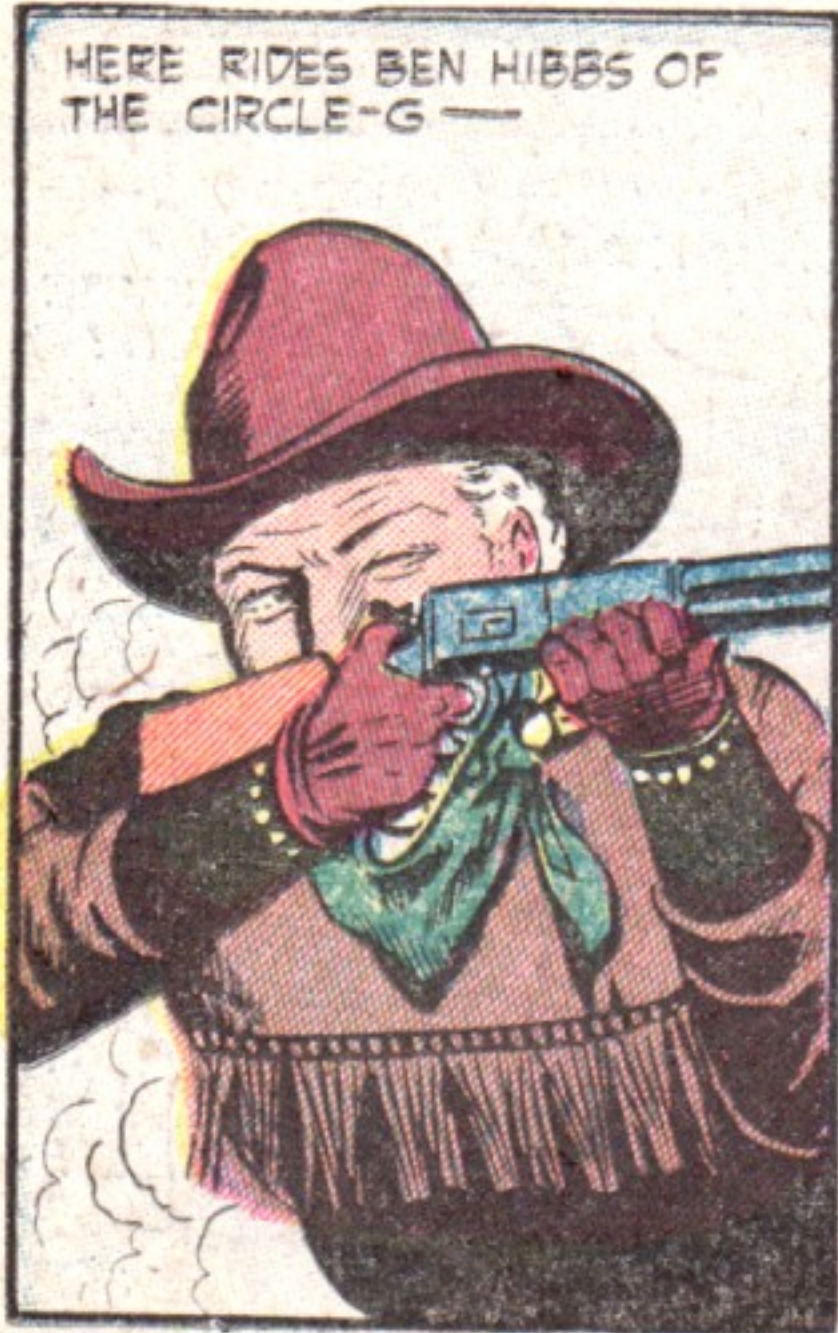
DOGGONE! THAT'S THE COMANCHE WAR CHIEF! RECKON **HE'S** BEHIND ALL THIS TROUBLE!



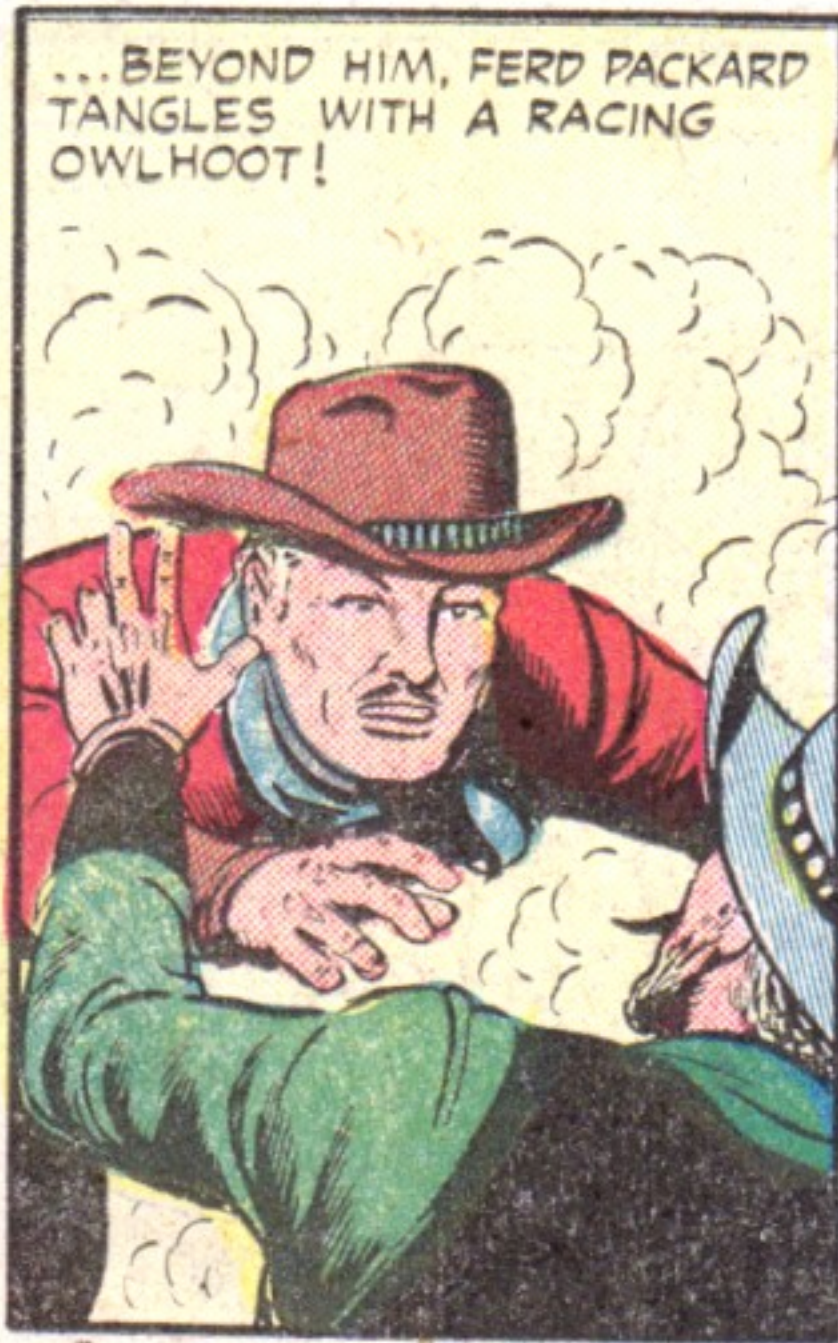




HERE RIDES BEN HIBBS OF THE CIRCLE-G —



...BEYOND HIM, FERD PACKARD TANGLES WITH A RACING OWLHOOT!



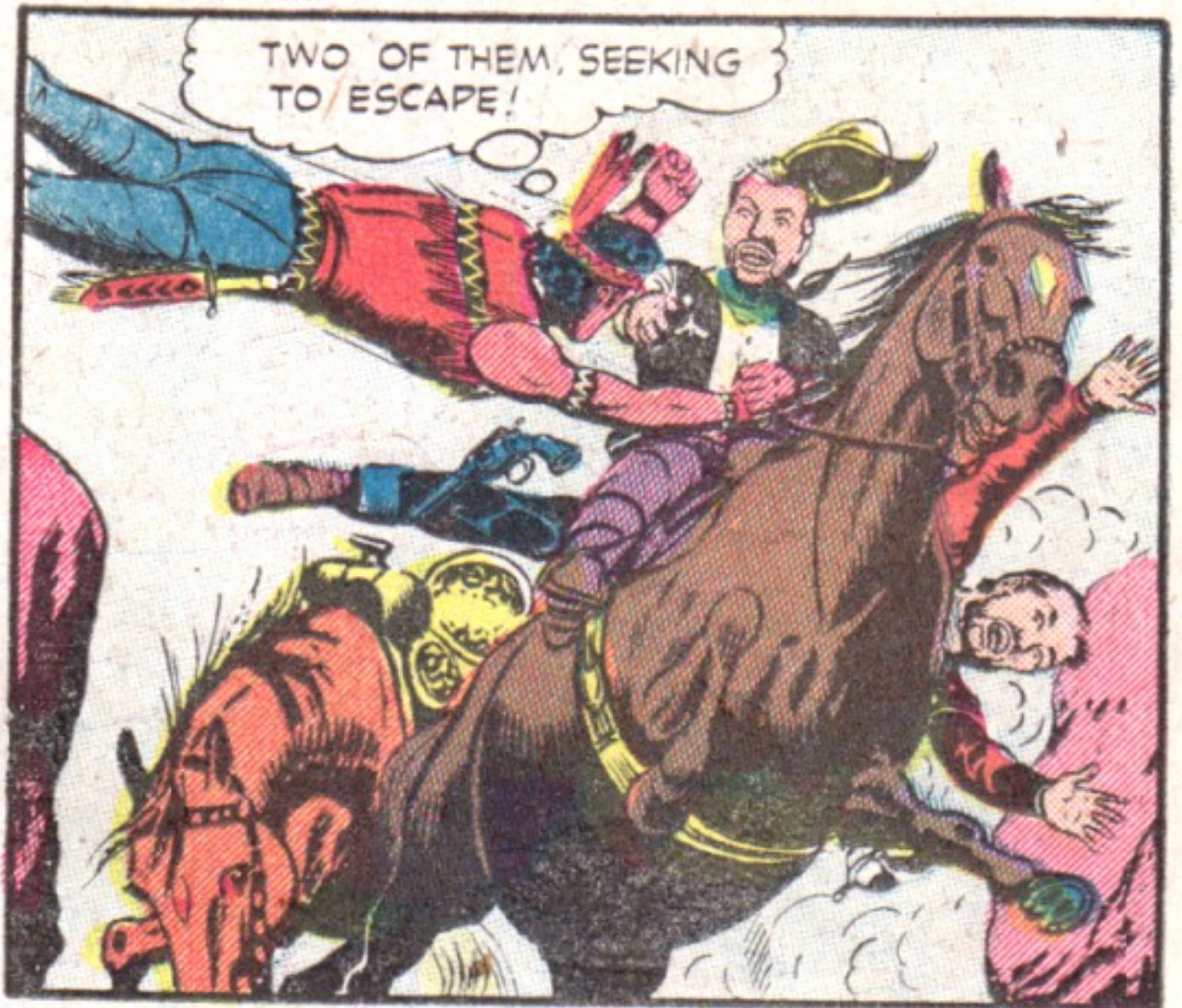
JIM LOGAN, FOREMAN OF THE BIG-J SPREAD ITSELF, USES HIS TWIN COLTS WITH DEADLY EFFECT!



OUT OF SIGHT OF THE GRIMLY BATTLING MEN, STRAIGHT ARROW LAUNCHES HIS GOLDEN ARROWS...

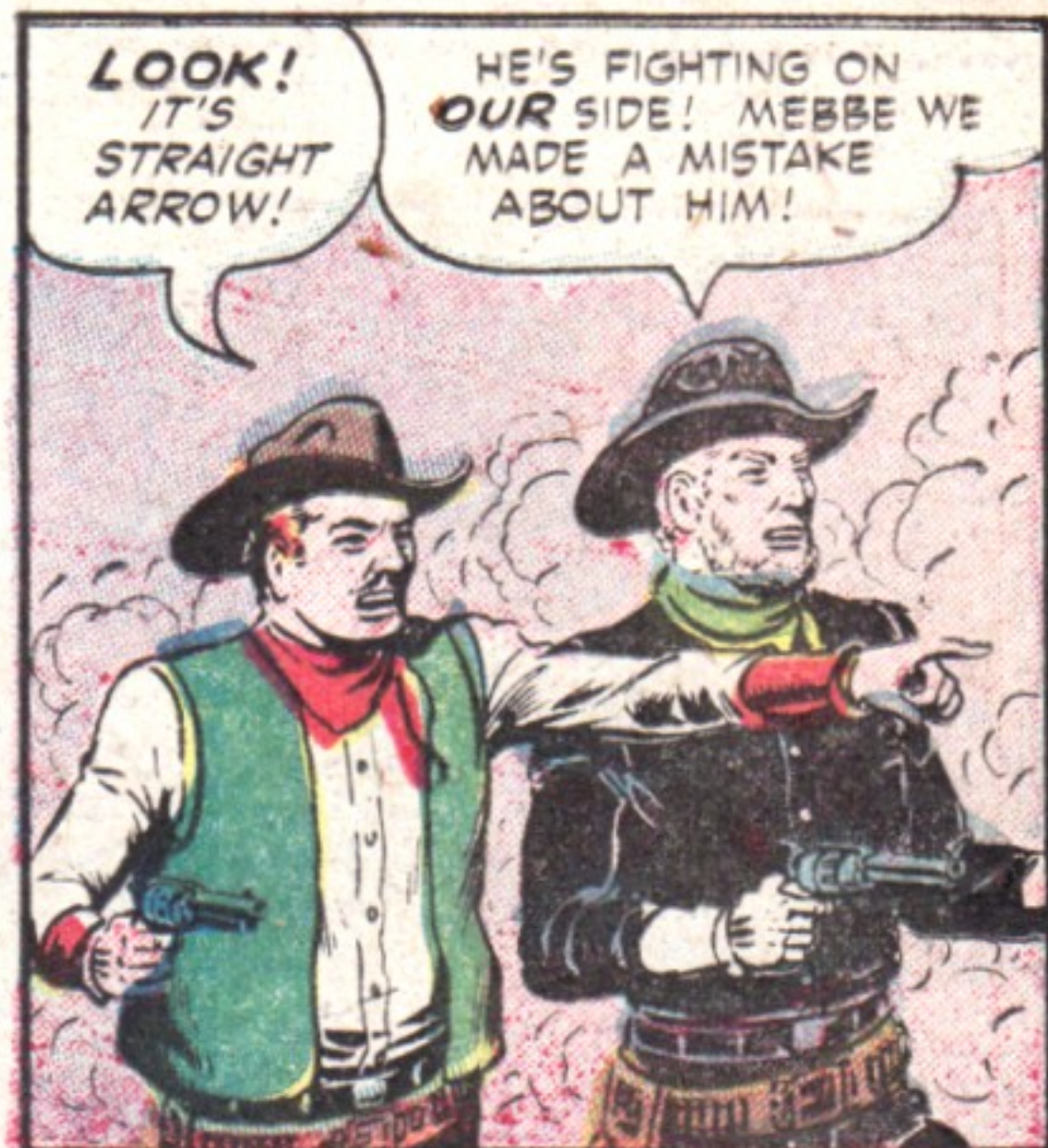
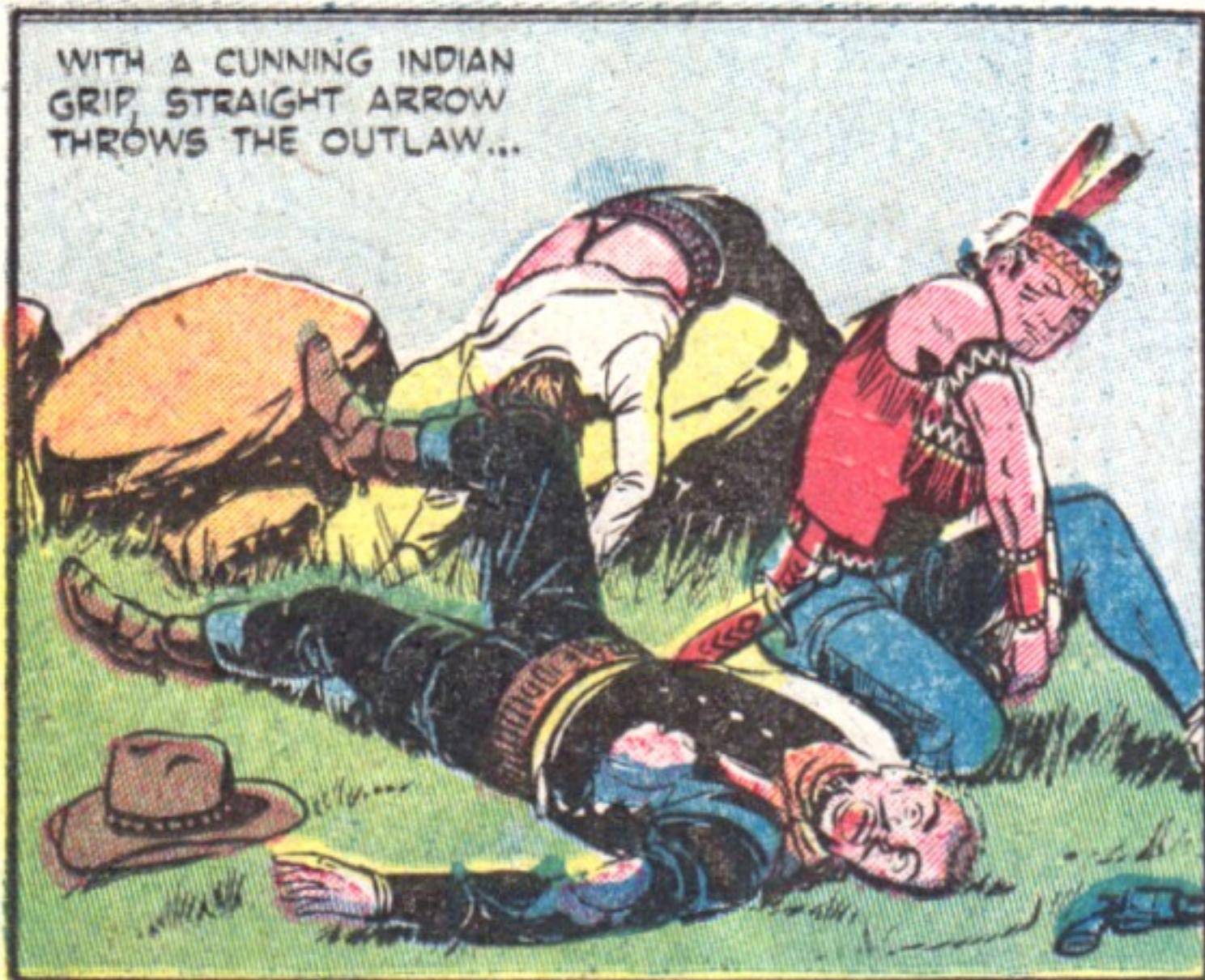


TWO OF THEM, SEEKING TO ESCAPE!



NOW THAT I HAVE EXPOSED YOUR VILLAINY, PERHAPS THE PEOPLE OF SUNDOWN VALLEY WILL BELIEVE I AM INNOCENT!





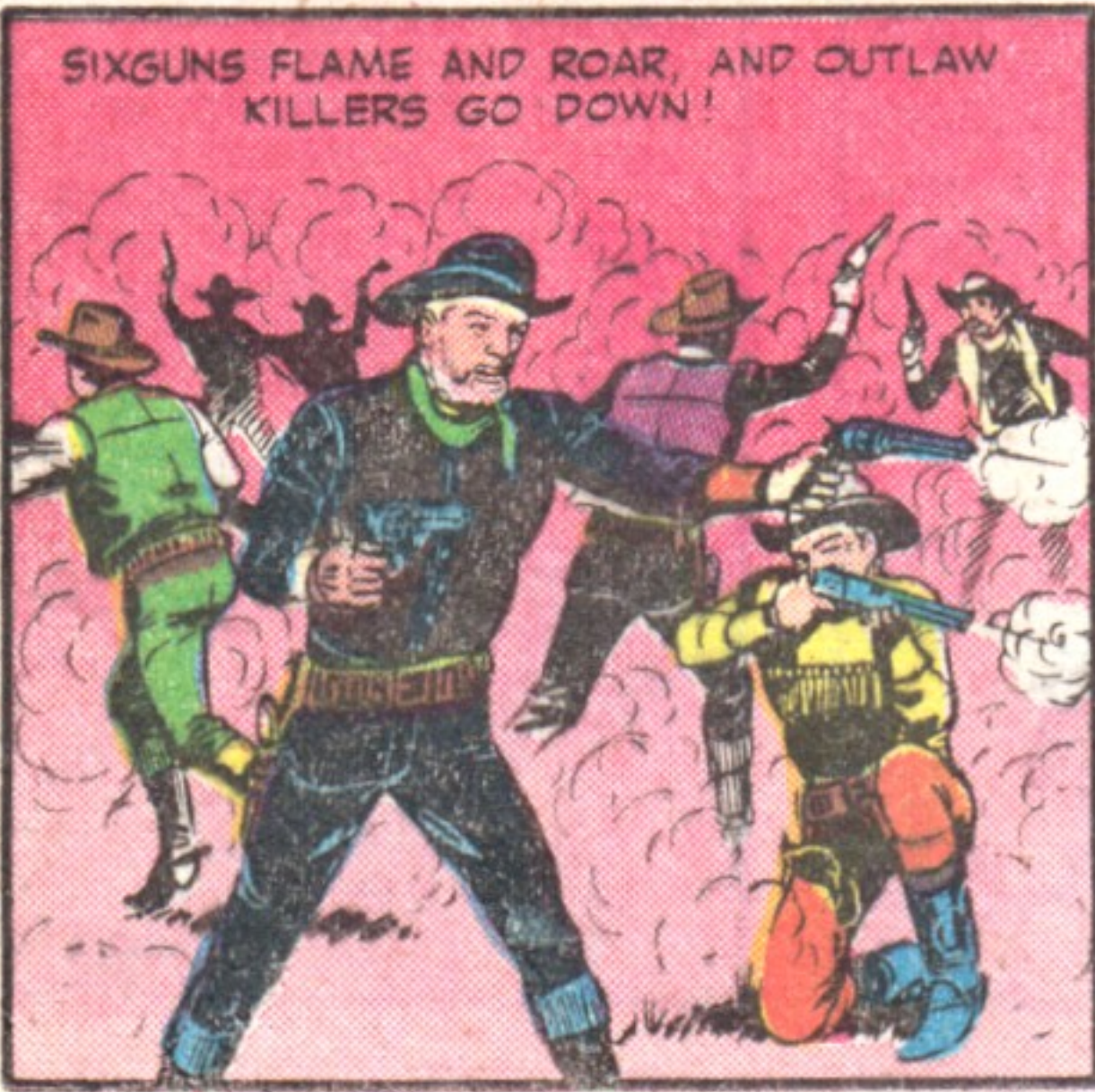
LIKE MADDENED PANTHERS, THE ANGRY RANCHERS HIT THE RUSTLERS!



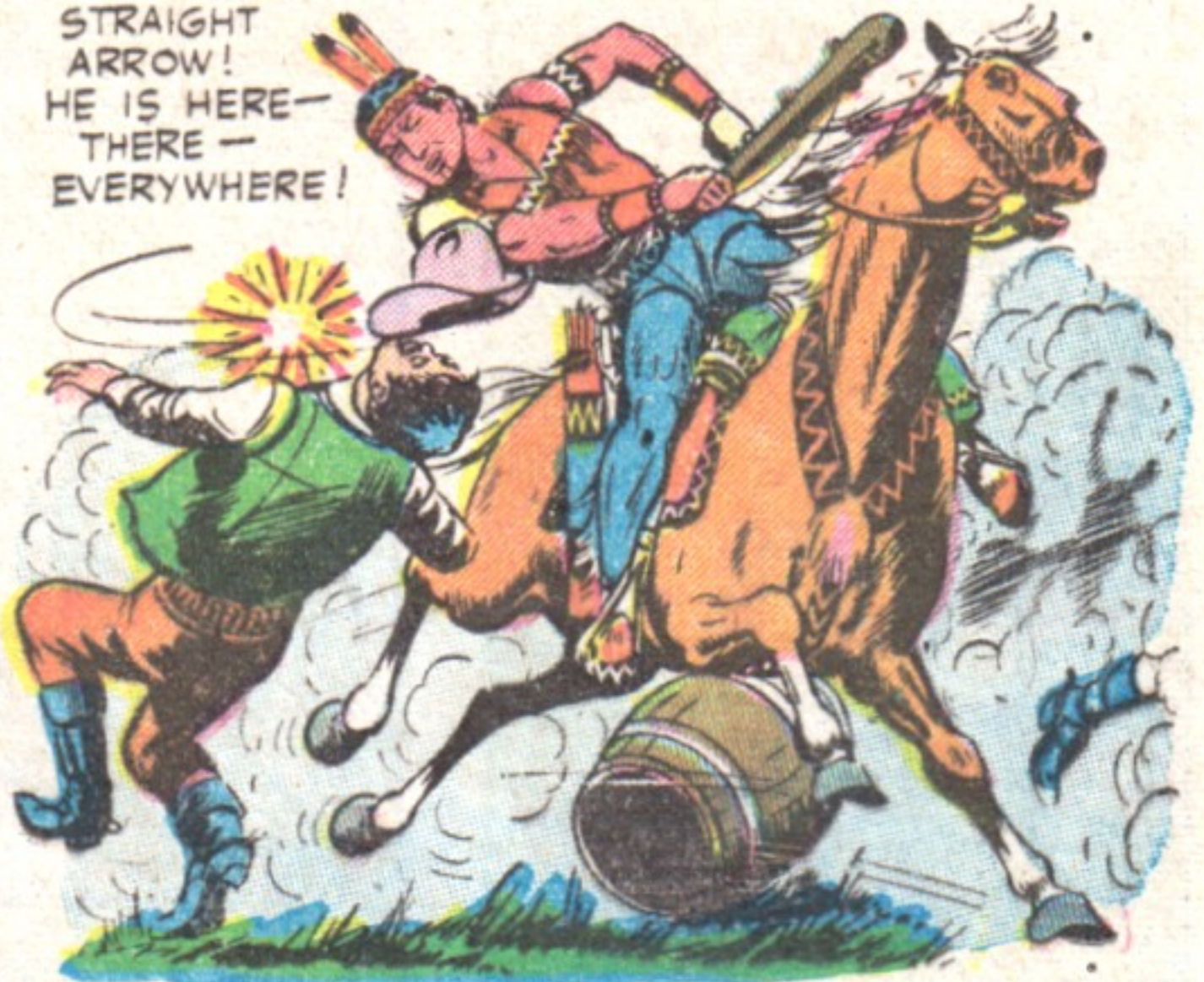
RIFLES CRACK!



SIXGUNS FLAME AND ROAR, AND OUTLAW KILLERS GO DOWN!



THE FIERCEST OF THE FIGHTING MEN IS STRAIGHT ARROW! HE IS HERE—THERE—EVERYWHERE!



THEY'RE DONE FOR! SOME OF 'EM GOT AWAY, BUT WE KNOW WHO THEY ARE!

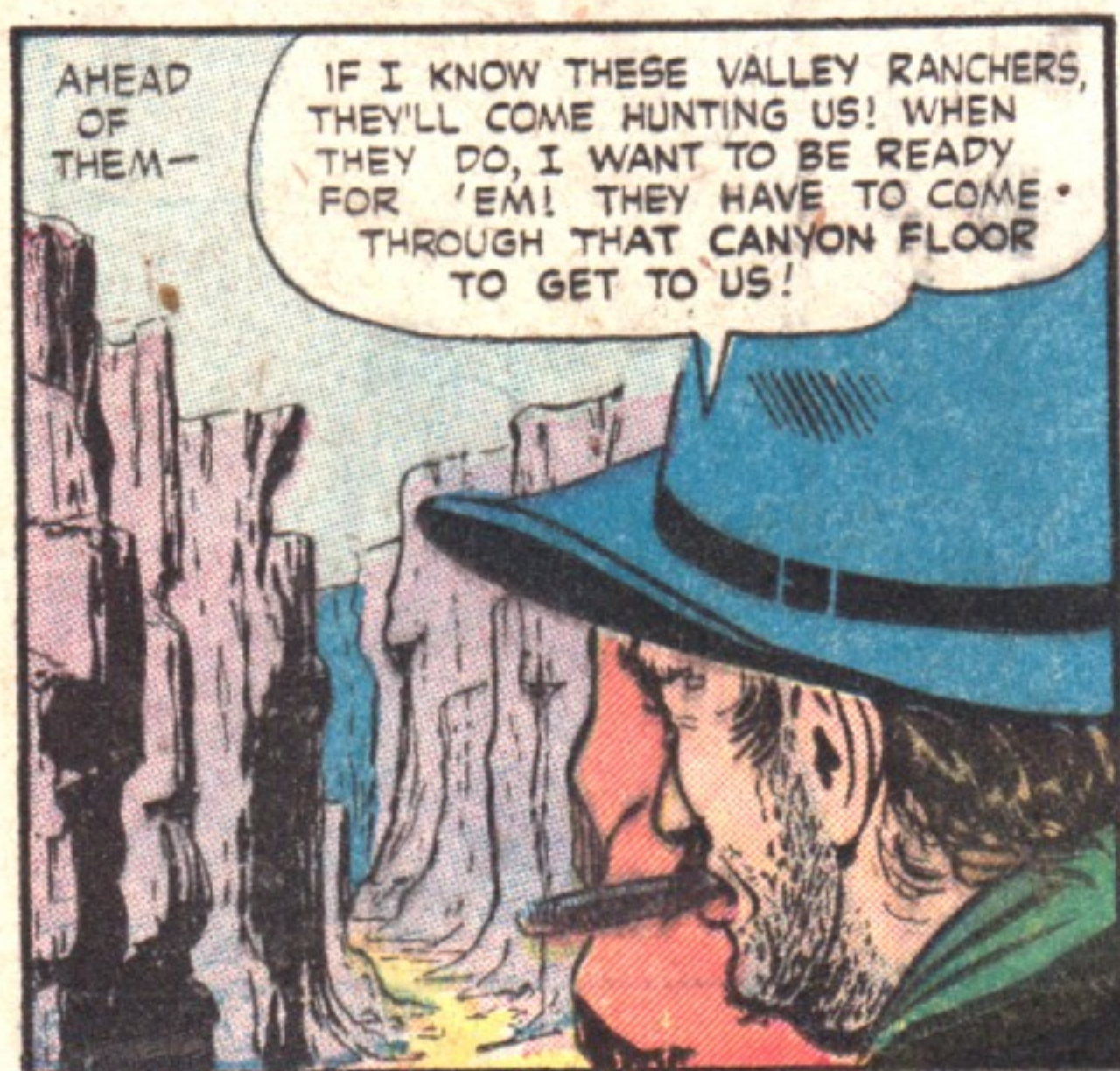
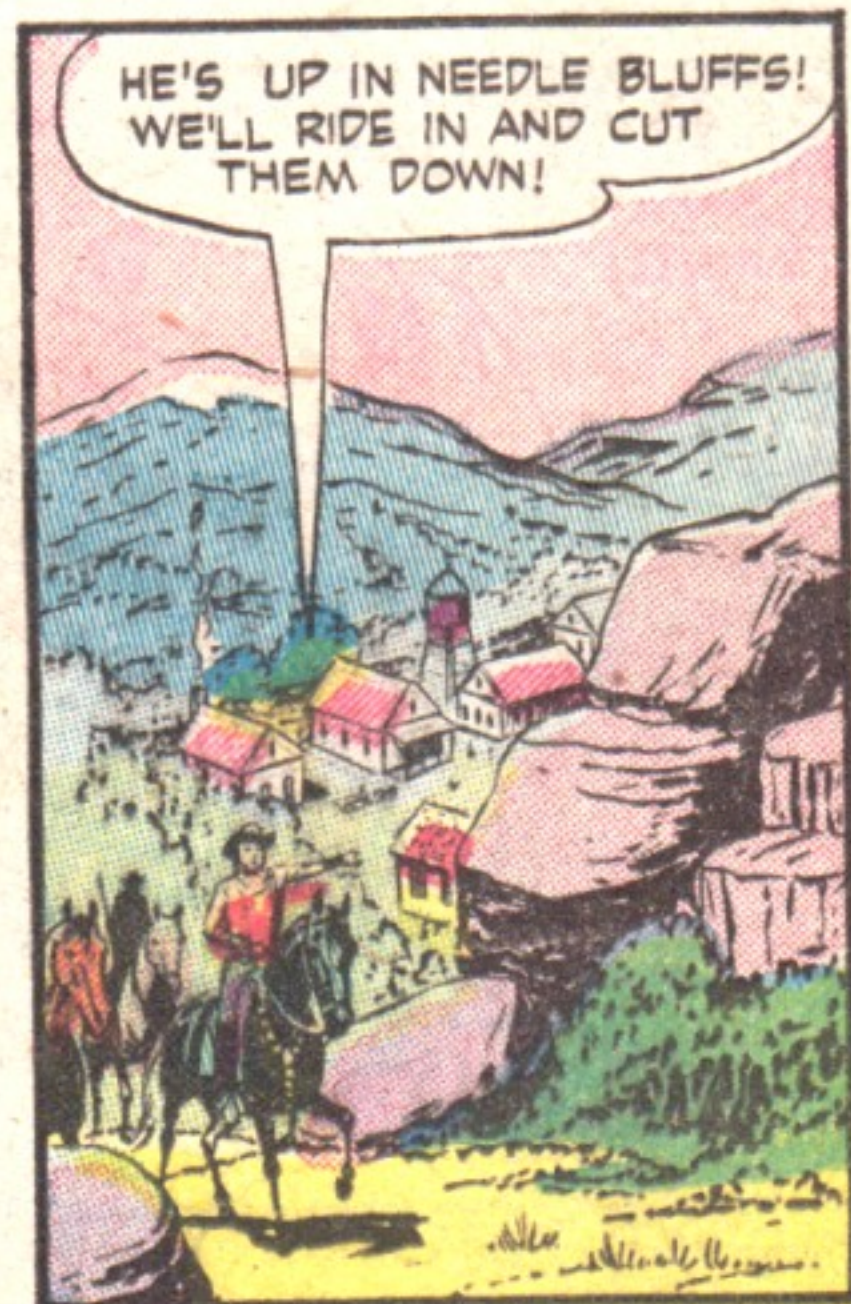
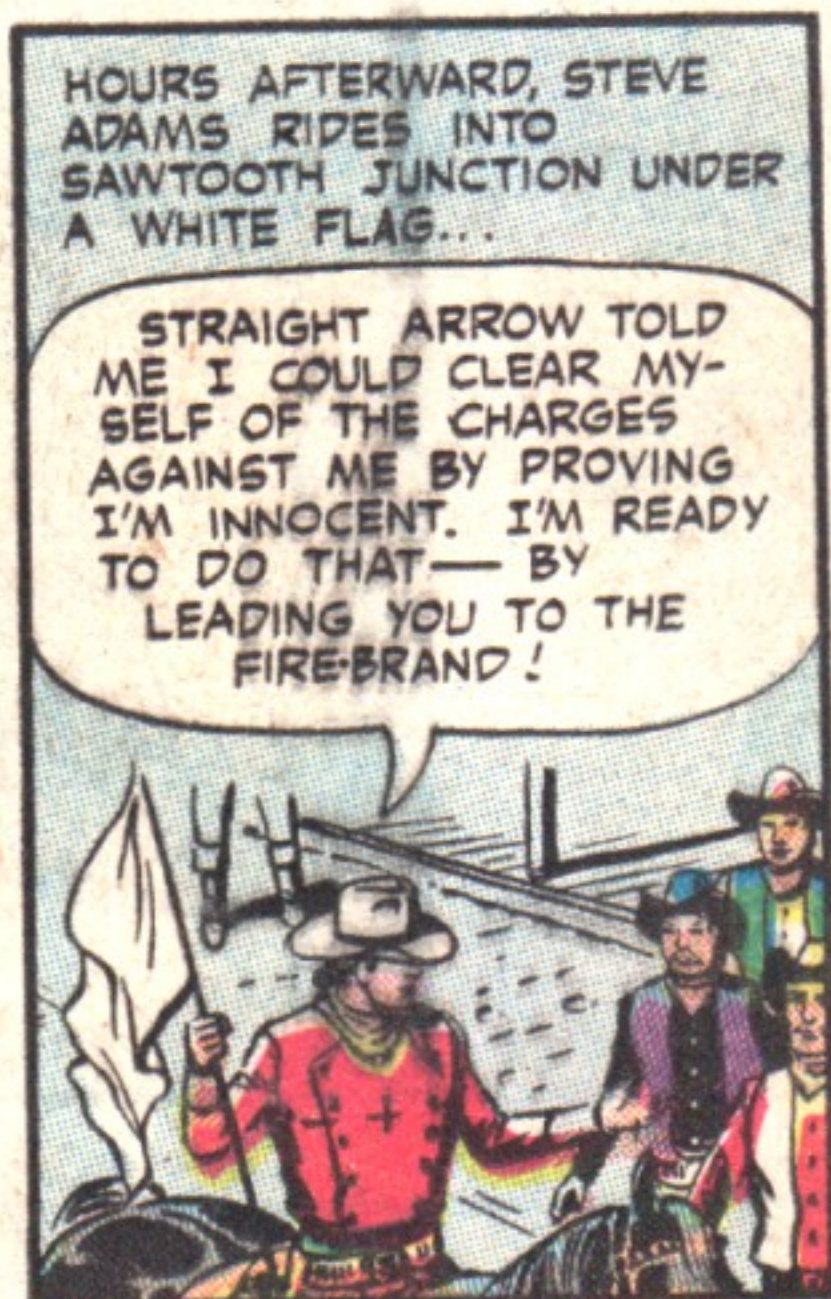
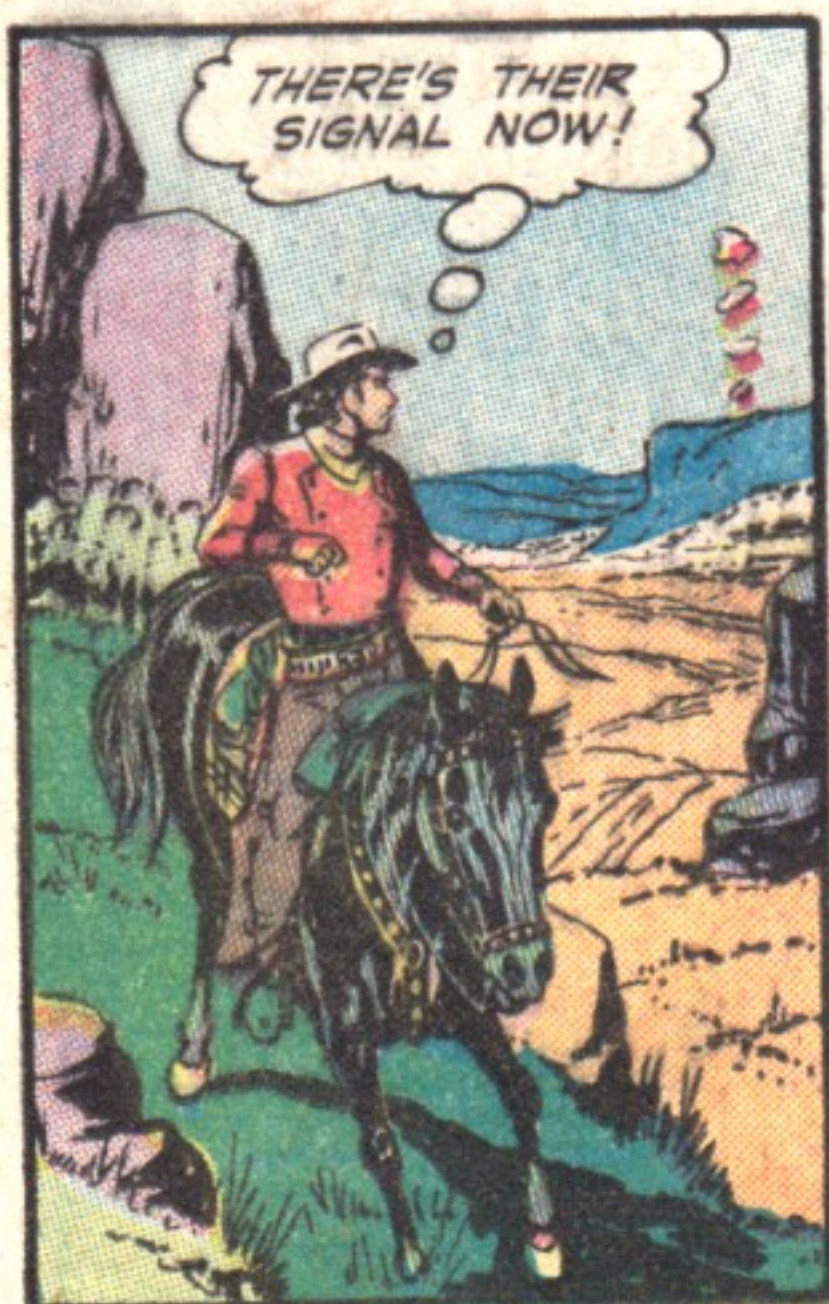
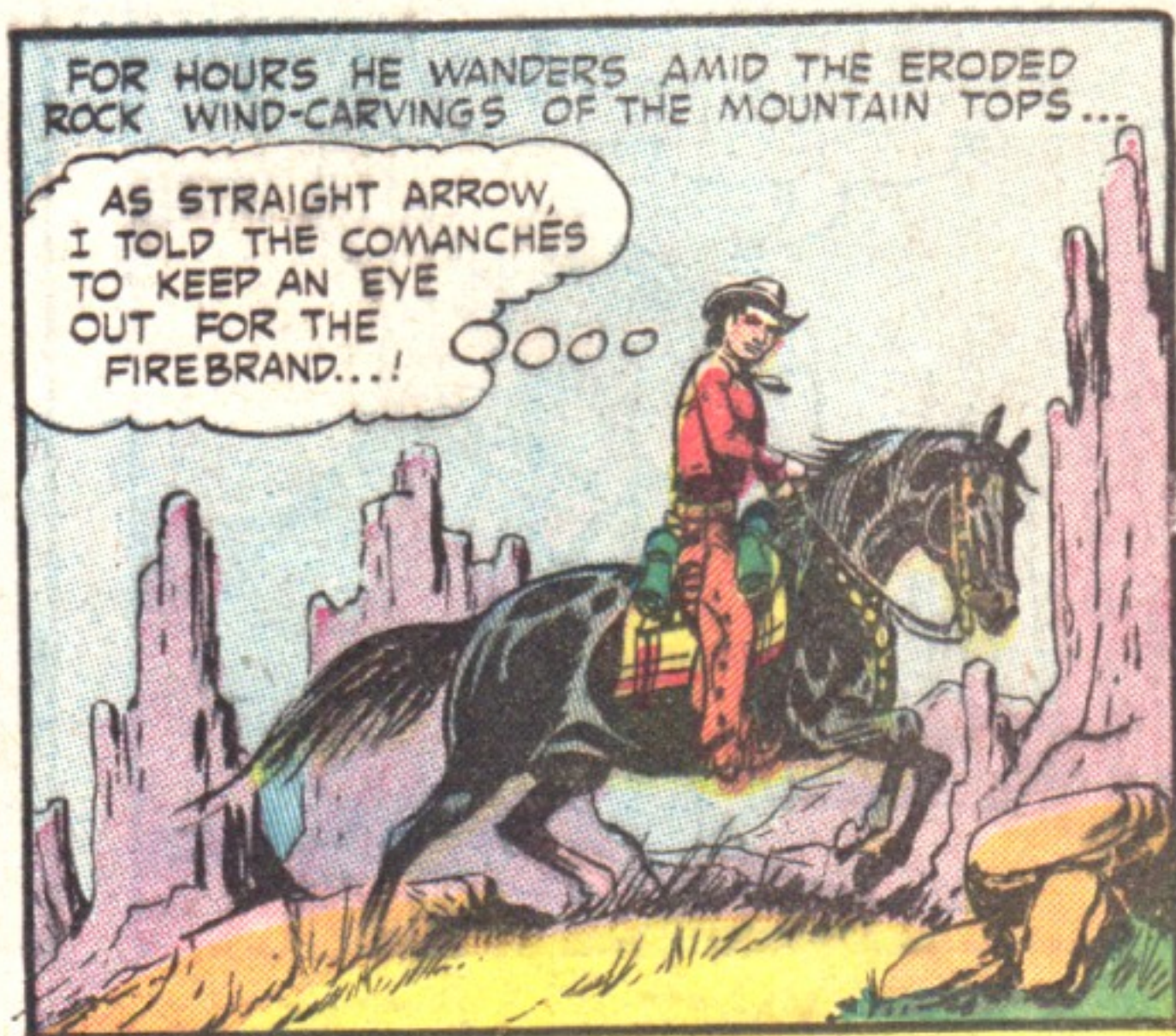
THE REST OF 'EM ARE RACING INTO THE HILLS. THEY'LL VAMOSE!



RECKON WE OWE YOU AN APOLOGY, STRAIGHT ARROW! YOU SHOWED YUH HAD NUTHIN' TO DO WITH THEM OWLHOOTS! I WISH STEVE ADAMS COULD PROVE HIMSELF AS YOU DID!

PERHAPS HE CAN...





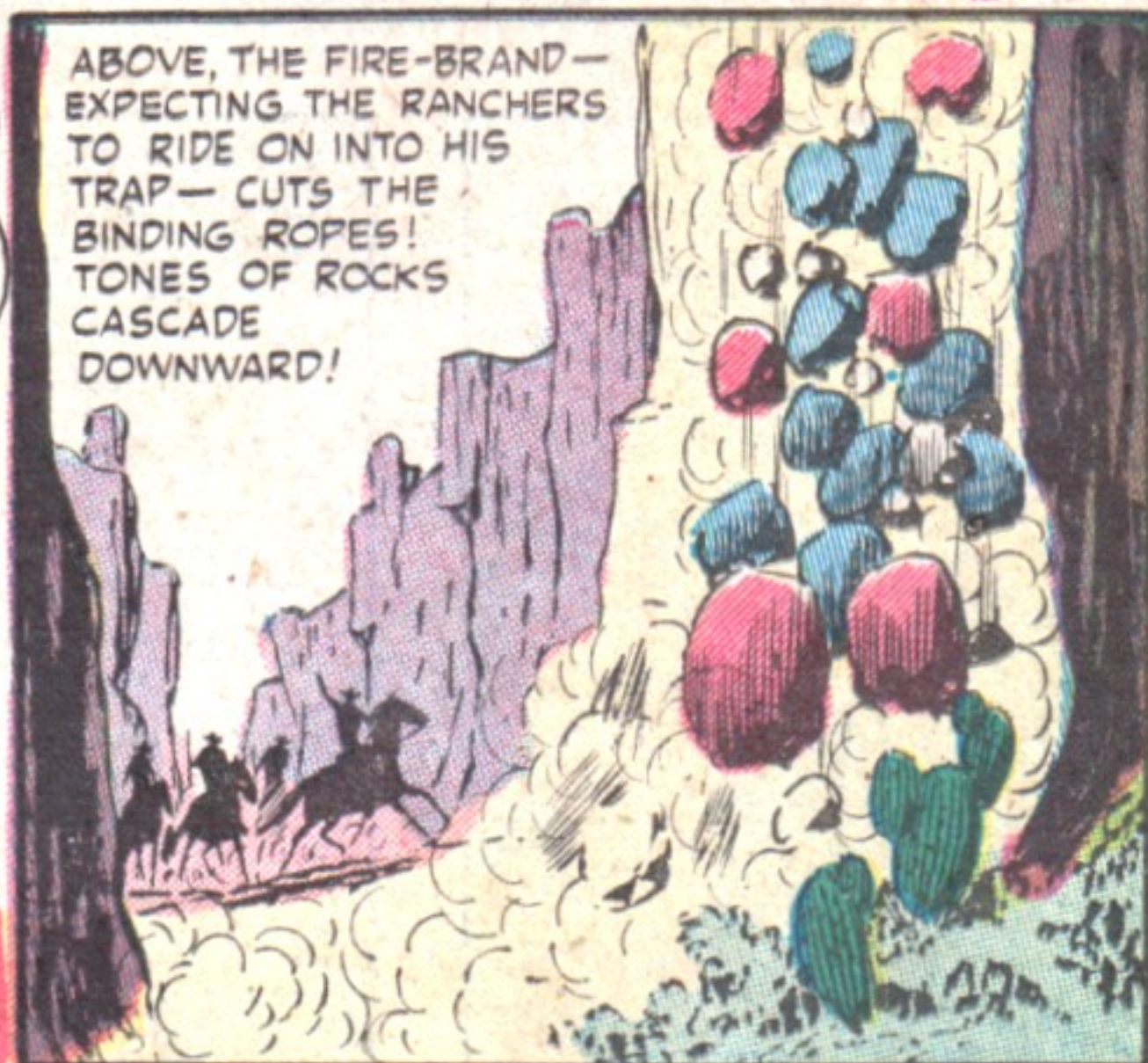


TO STEVE ADAMS (WHO IS ALSO STRAIGHT ARROW, AND THUS KNOWS EVERY ROCK AND FLOWER OF THIS ARID REGION) THE SIGHT ON THE MOUNTAIN SLOPES CRIES RANGER!

THESE HILLS ARE ALWAYS COVERED WITH **ROCKS!** THE ROCKS ARE **GONE!**



ABOVE, THE FIRE-BRAND—EXPECTING THE RANCHERS TO RIDE ON INTO HIS TRAP—CUTS THE BINDING ROPES! TONES OF ROCKS CASCADE DOWNWARD!



HIS TRAP HAS MISSED US—BUT OUR LEAD WON'T MISS HIM!



I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THIS!



ON YOUR FEET, YOU! YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL, AND I INTEND TO SEE YOU STAY THERE... AS LIVING PROOF THAT STRAIGHT ARROW AND STEVE ADAMS ARE INNOCENT OF ALL THE CHARGES ONCE MADE AGAINST THEM!



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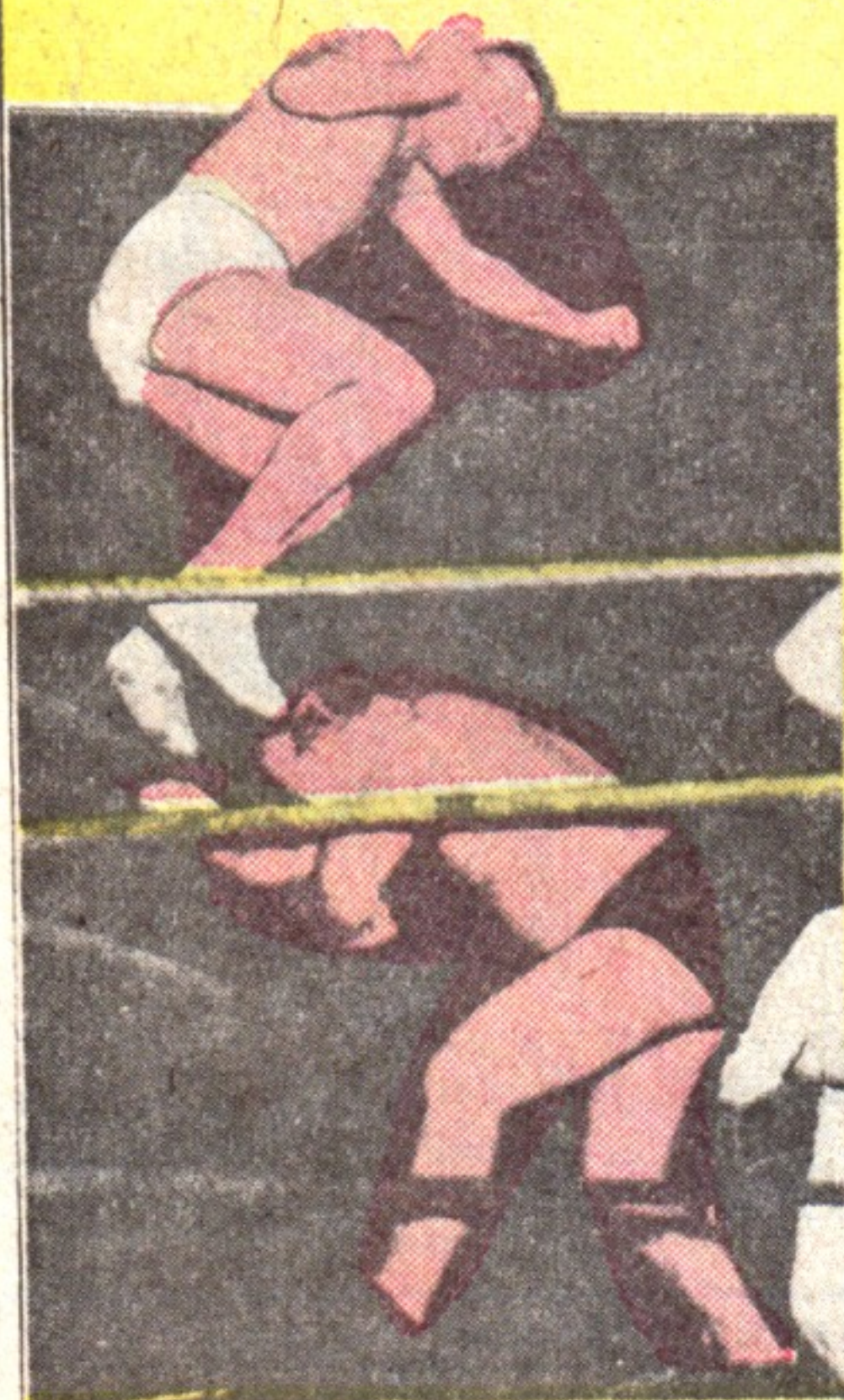
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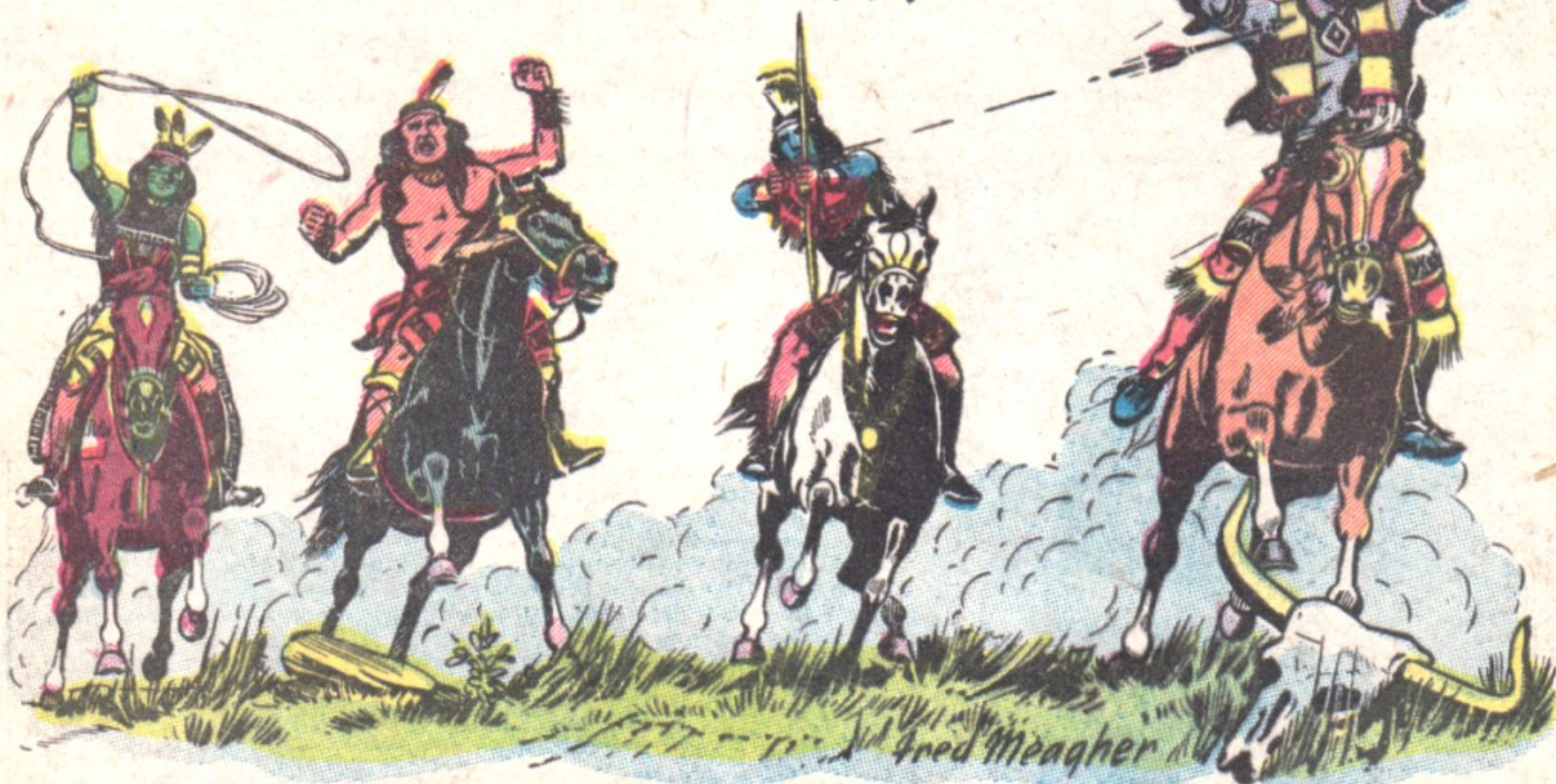
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STRAIGHT ARROW

FROM THE NORTH, SOUTH, WEST AND EAST THEY COME, RIDING ON A MISSION OF DOOM! "DEATH TO STRAIGHT ARROW!" IS THEIR CRY! EACH MAN IS THE FINEST WARRIOR OF HIS TRIBE... EACH IS AN EXPERT WITH HIS CHOSEN WEAPON... TOGETHER THEY ARE —

"THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF HATE!"



AN ARROW FLASHES IN THE NOONDAY SUN, SPEEDING FROM THE BOW OF LONG BOW, THE ARIKAREE —

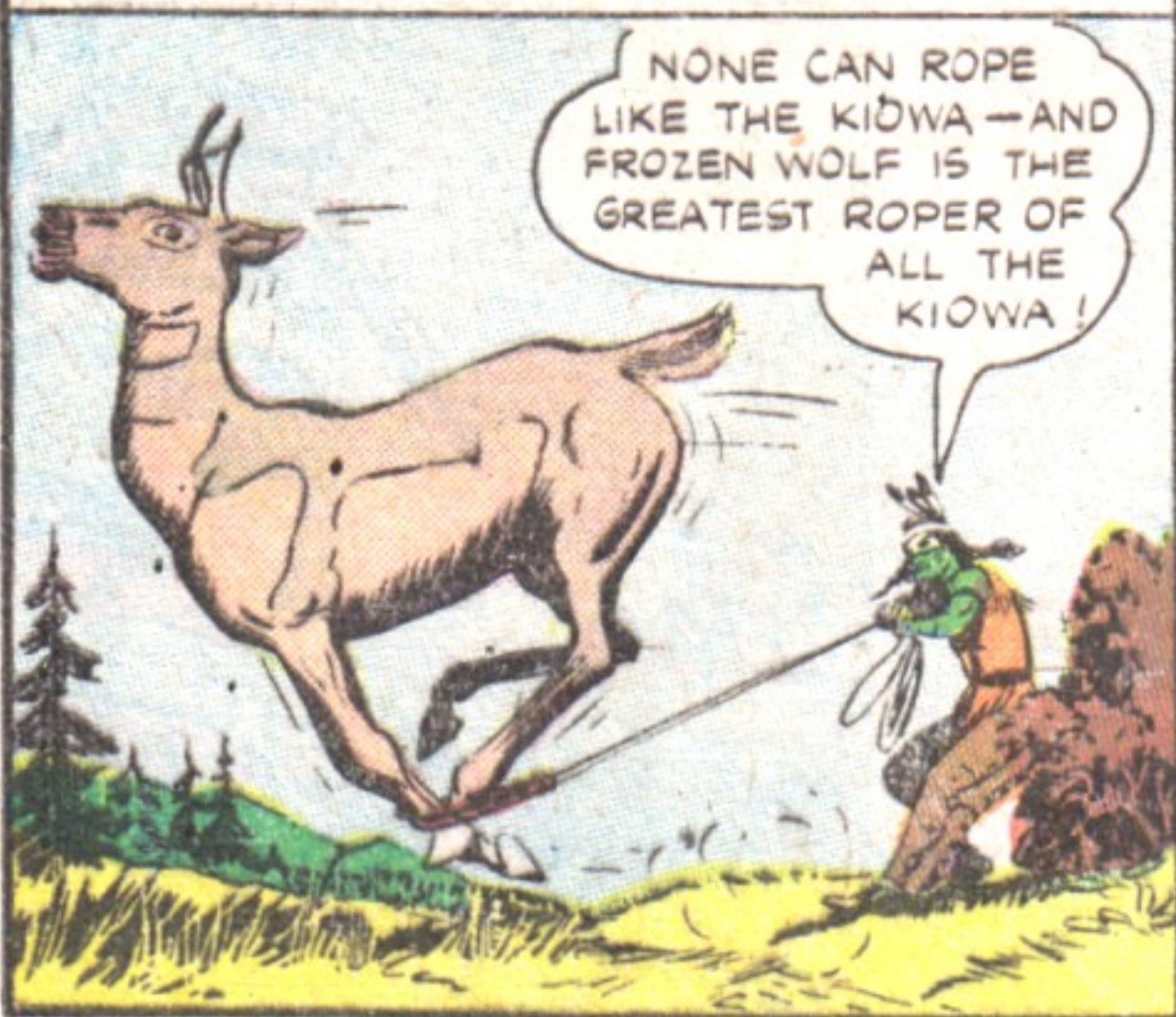


A KNIFE WHISTLES THROUGH THE AIR!

AIEE! KIOBA, THE LIPAN, NEVER MISSES!

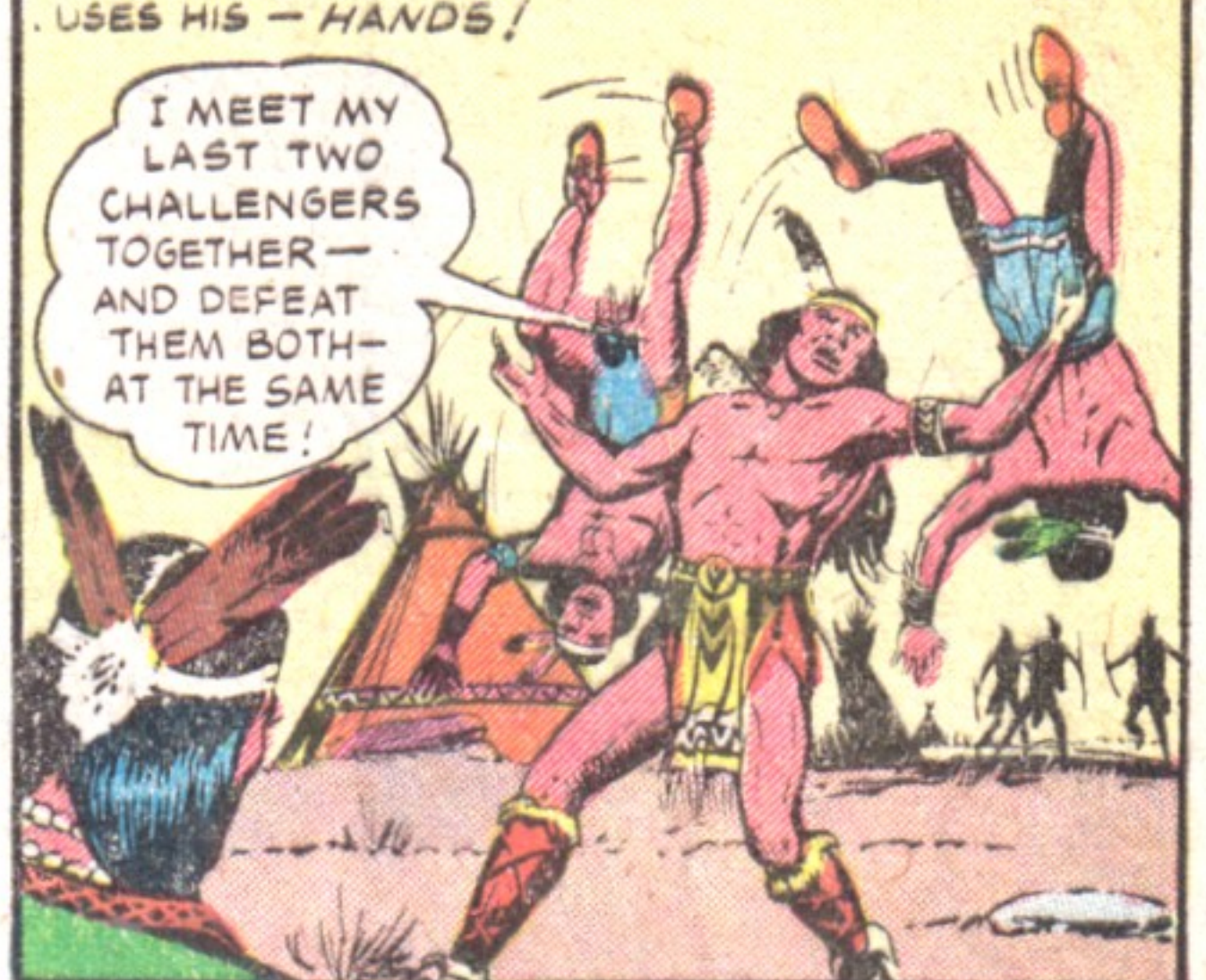


A NOOSE FROM THE MAGUAY ROPE OF FROZEN WOLF DROPS A SPEEDING PRONGHORN!



NONE CAN ROPE LIKE THE KIOWA—AND FROZEN WOLF IS THE GREATEST ROPER OF ALL THE KIOWA!

ONE MAN ALONE—BENT DOG, THE RENEGADE CHEYENNE—DOES NOT USE A WEAPON—HE USES HIS—HANDS!



I MEET MY LAST TWO CHALLENGERS TOGETHER—AND DEFEAT THEM BOTH—AT THE SAME TIME!

FROM THE GATHERING OF THE ARIKAREE, LIPAN, AND KIOWA A MIGHTY HOWL LIFTS TO THE SKY...



THESE ARE OUR MEN!

THEY HAVE WON THEIR CONTESTS MANY TIMES! THEY SHALL GO ON THE MISSION OF DEATH!

CHATZAK IKA, THE MEDICINE MAN, BLESSES THEIR WEAPONS WITH SACRED HERBS...

I BLESS YOUR ARMS, AND GIVE THEM VICTORY! SLAY THE ENEMY WHO IS SO STRONG! YOU FOUR MEN HAVE BEEN GATHERED FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE PLAINS! YOU ARE THE GREATEST!



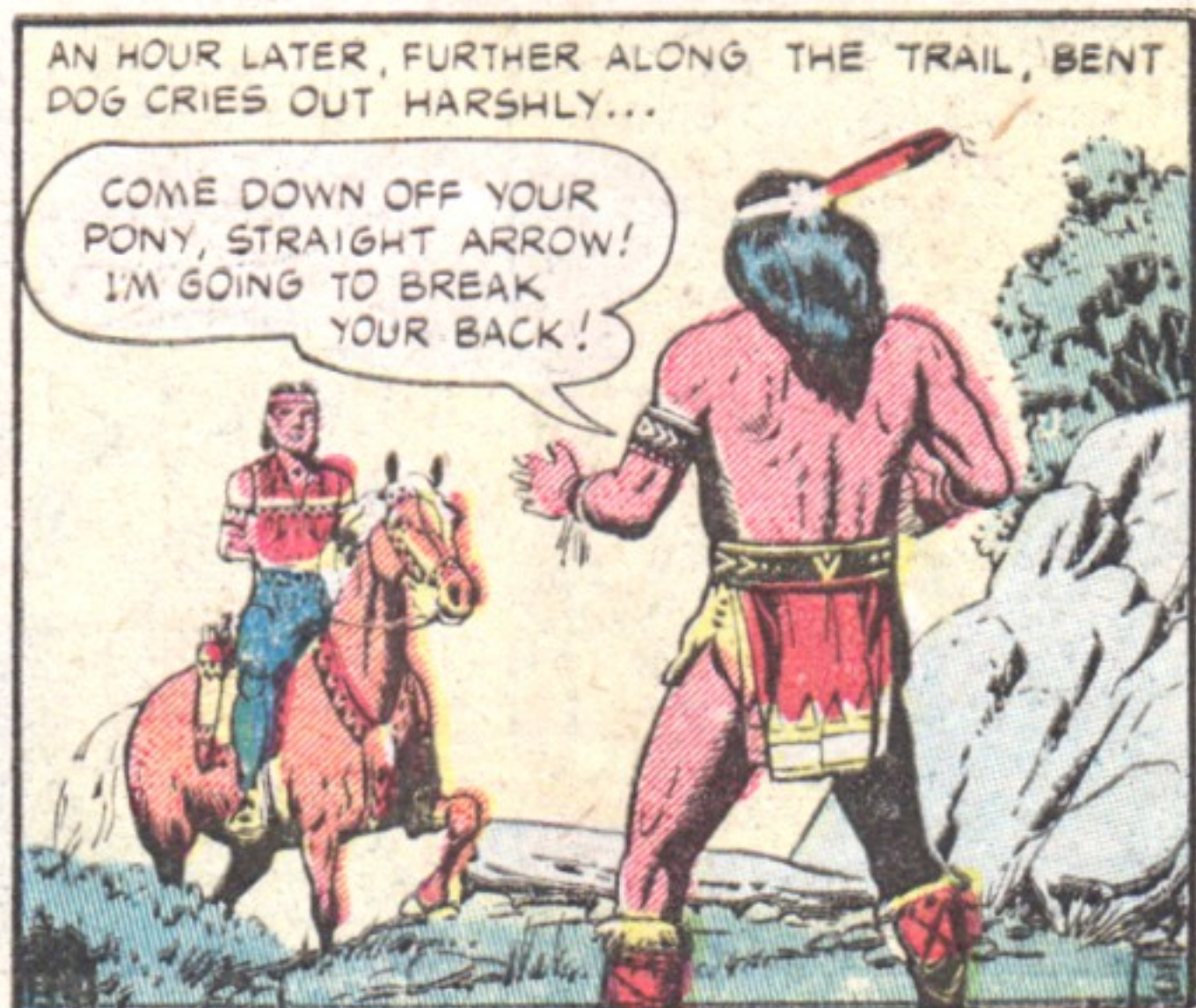
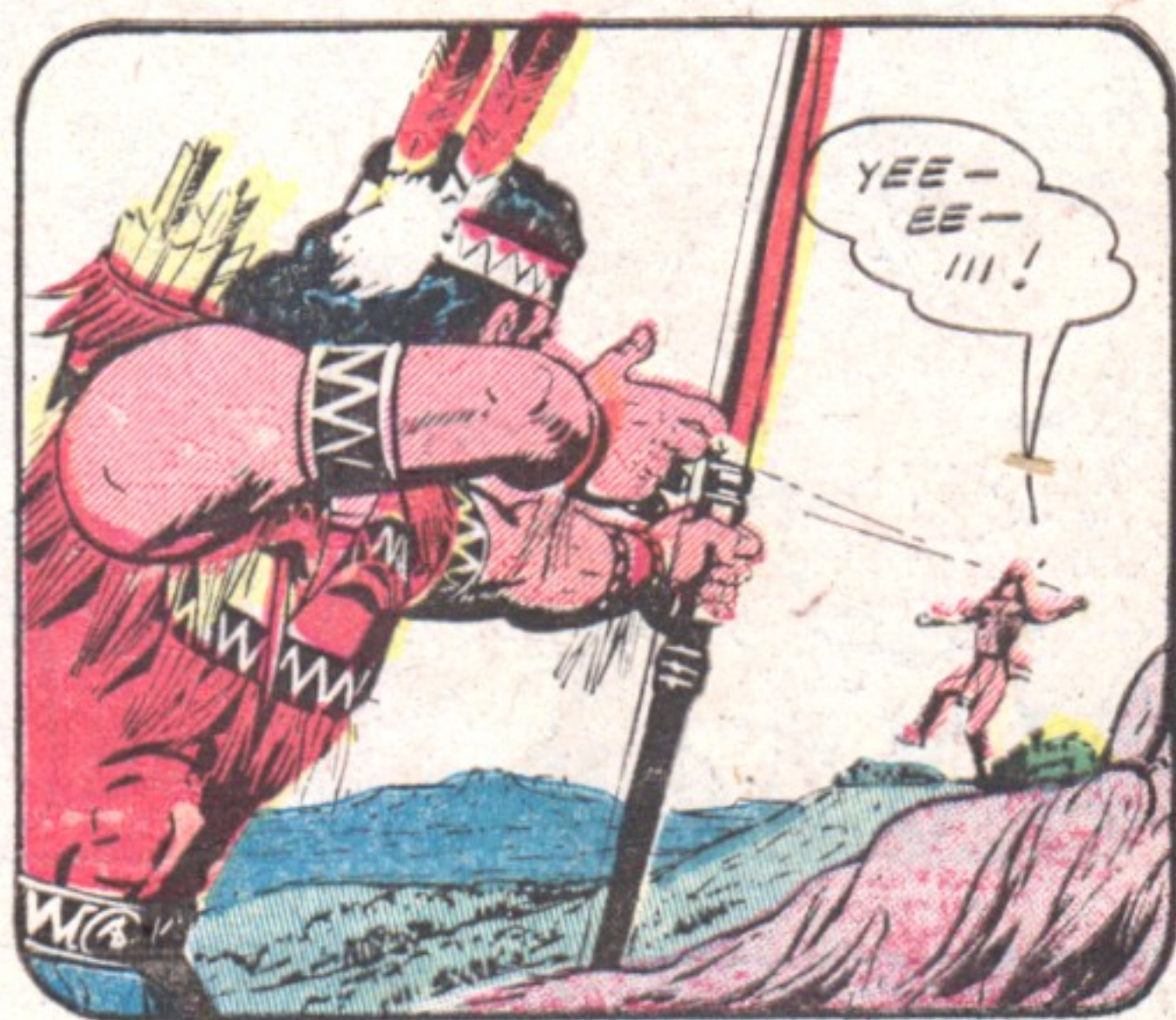
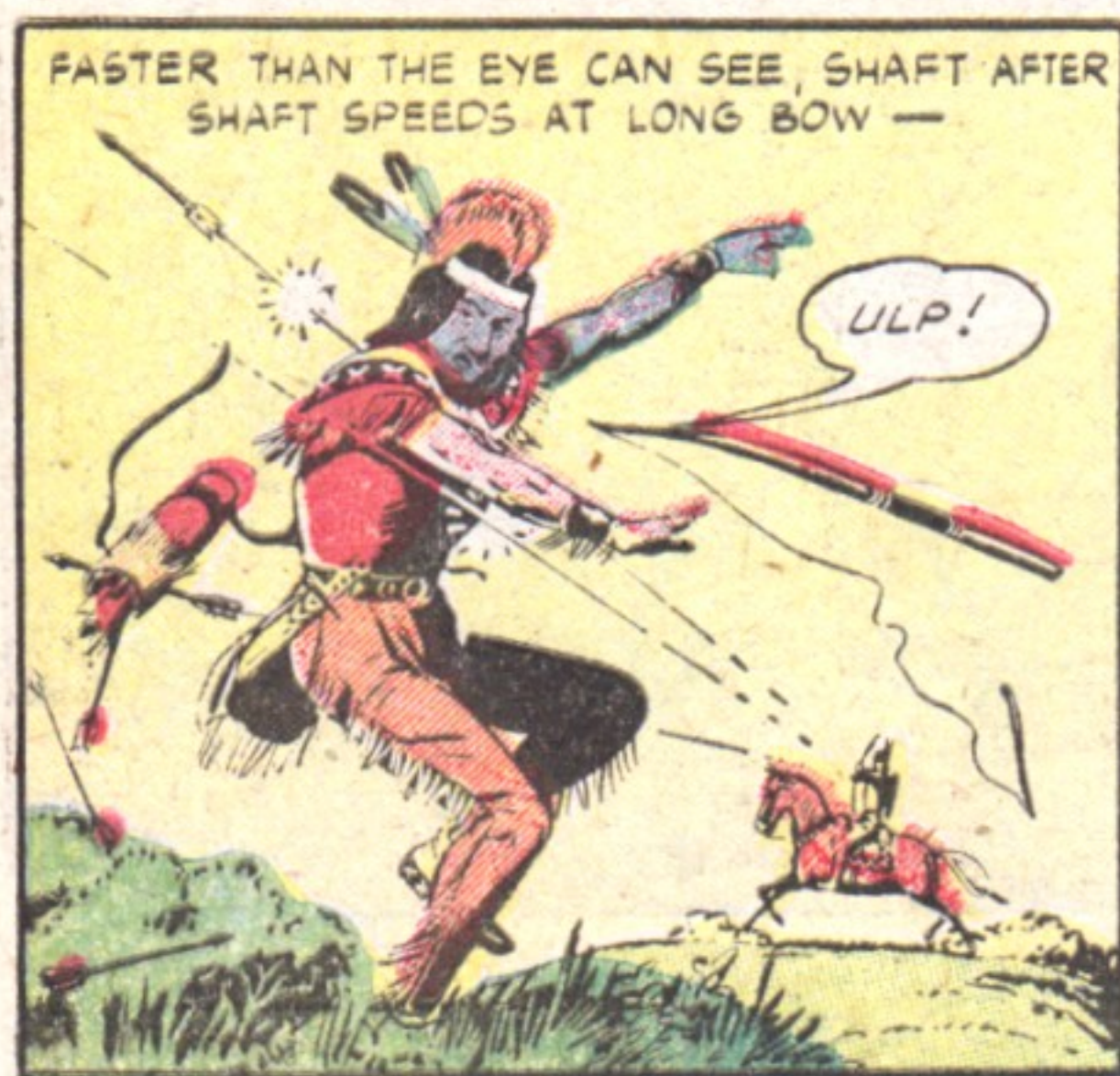
NONE CAN STAND BEFORE YOU! NOT EVEN—**STRAIGHT ARROW!** FIND HIM! SLAY HIM! THEN 'ONCE MORE CAN OUR LESSER WARRIORS RIDE AGAINST THE COMANCHE PEOPLE HE GUIDES, TO STEAL THEIR PONIES!



AI! WITH STRAIGHT ARROW DEAD, WE MAY ONCE AGAIN ATTACK THE COMANCHES!

THEY RIDE THE FINEST PONIES IN THE LAND! WE WILL TAKE THOSE PONIES—ONCE STRAIGHT ARROW DIES!

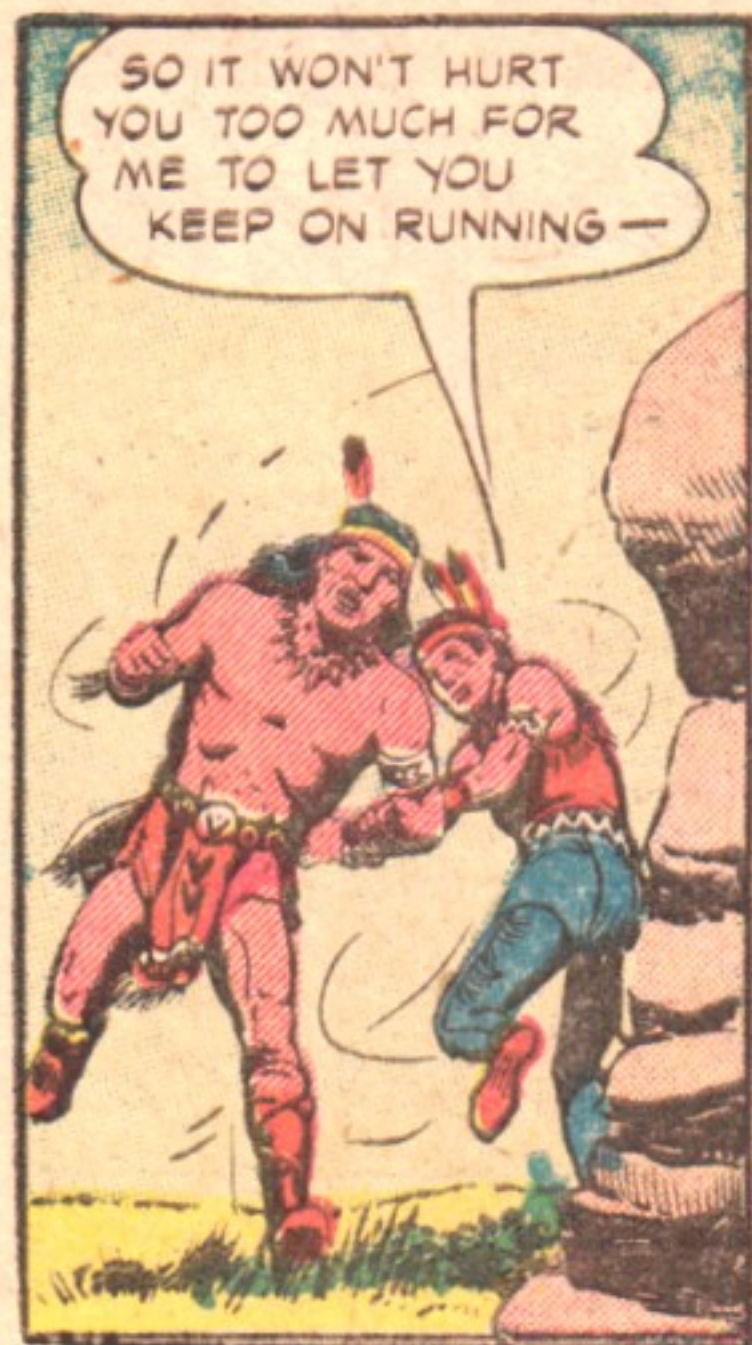
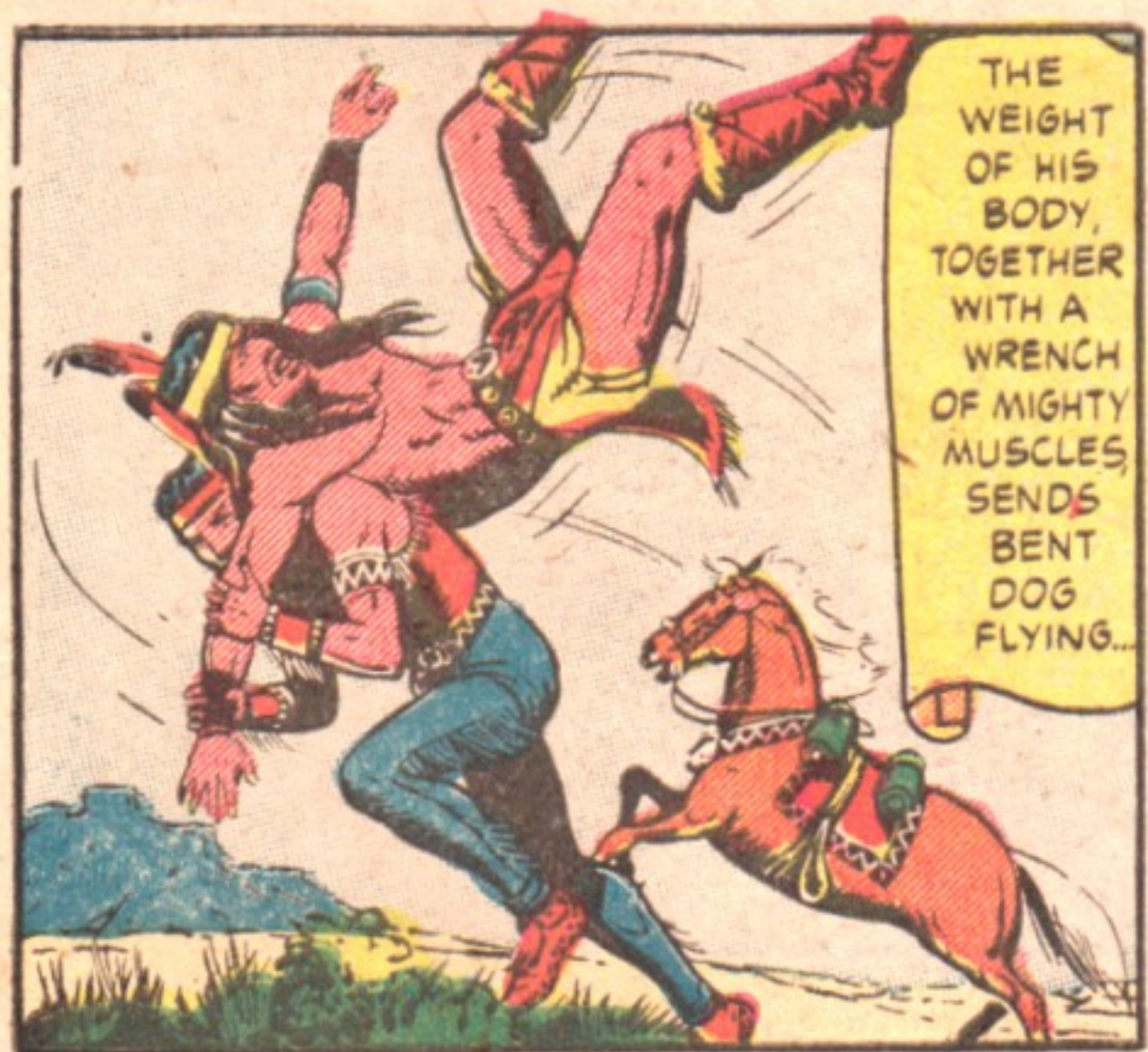
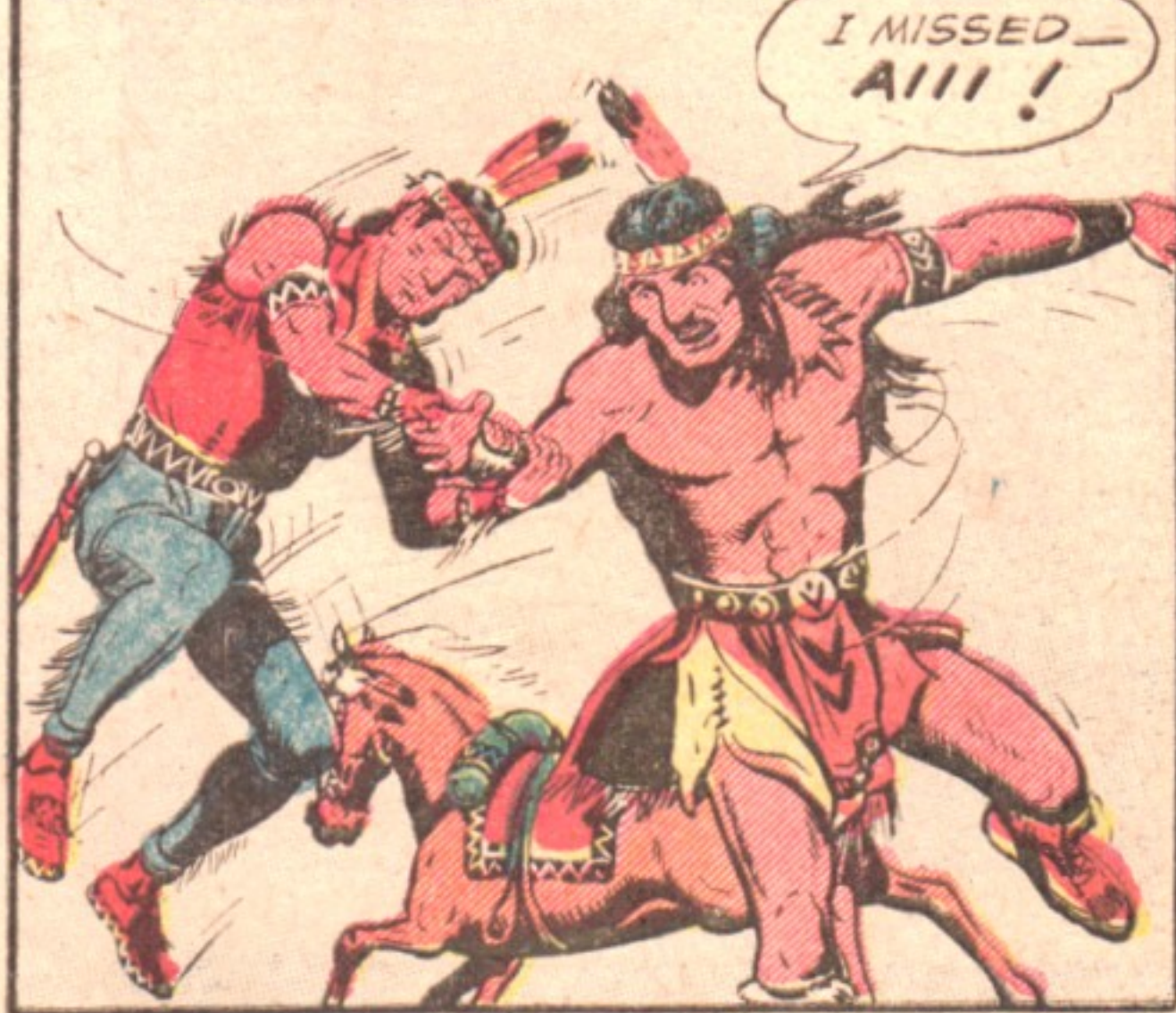


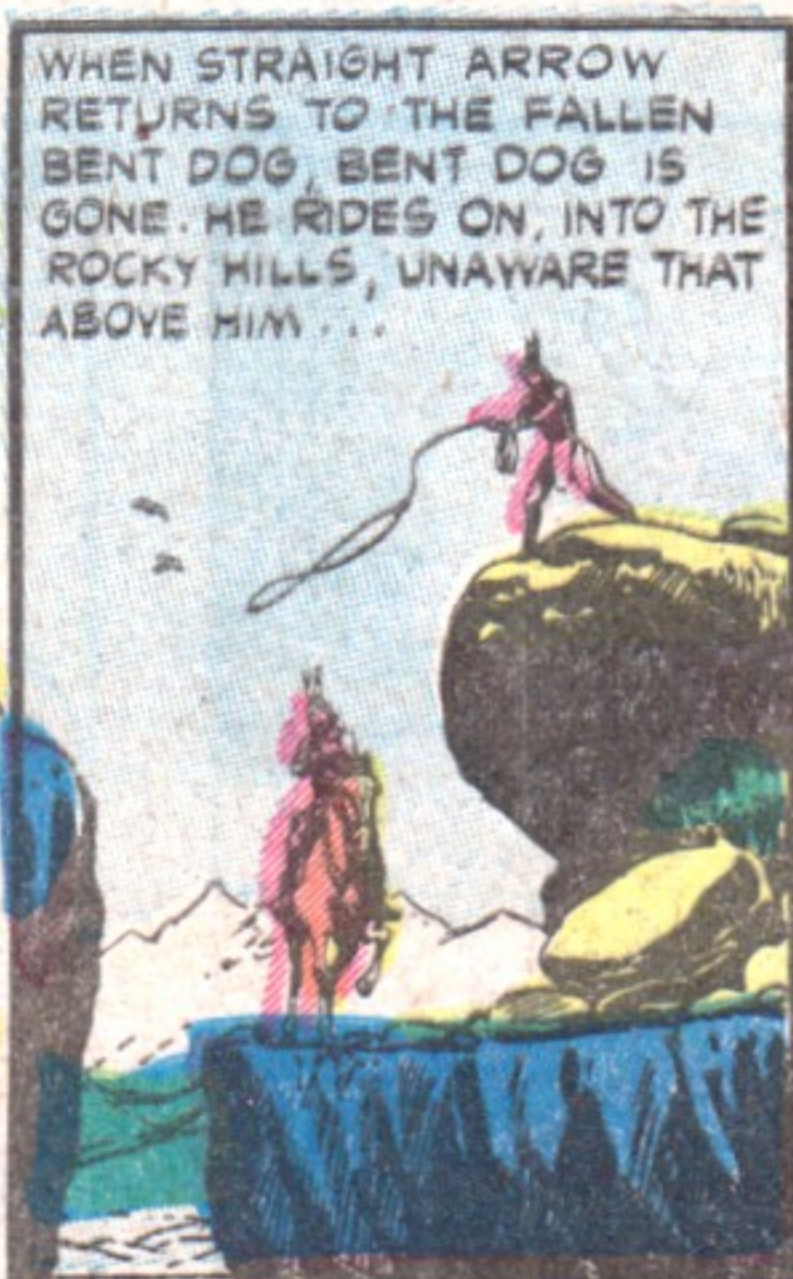
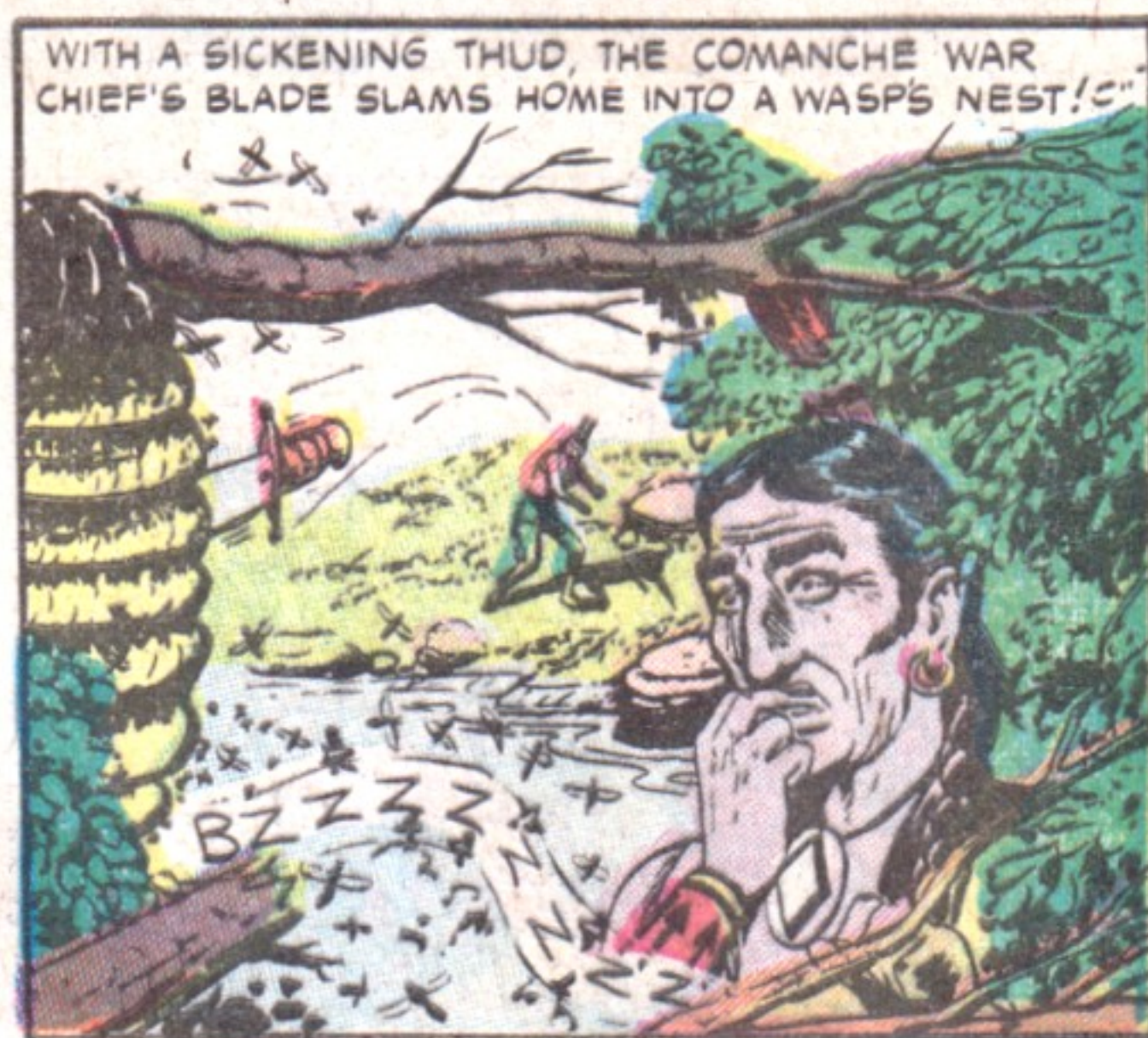
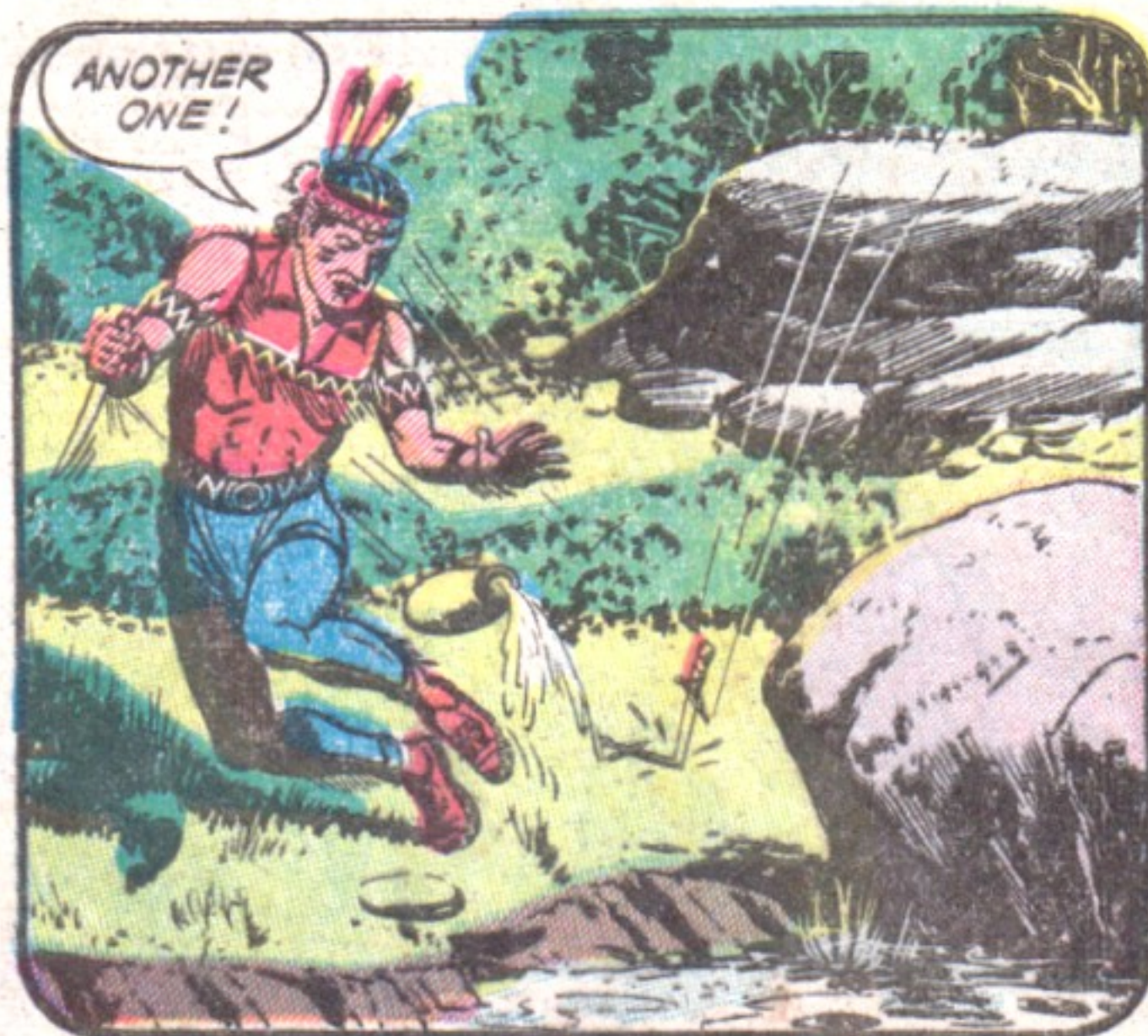
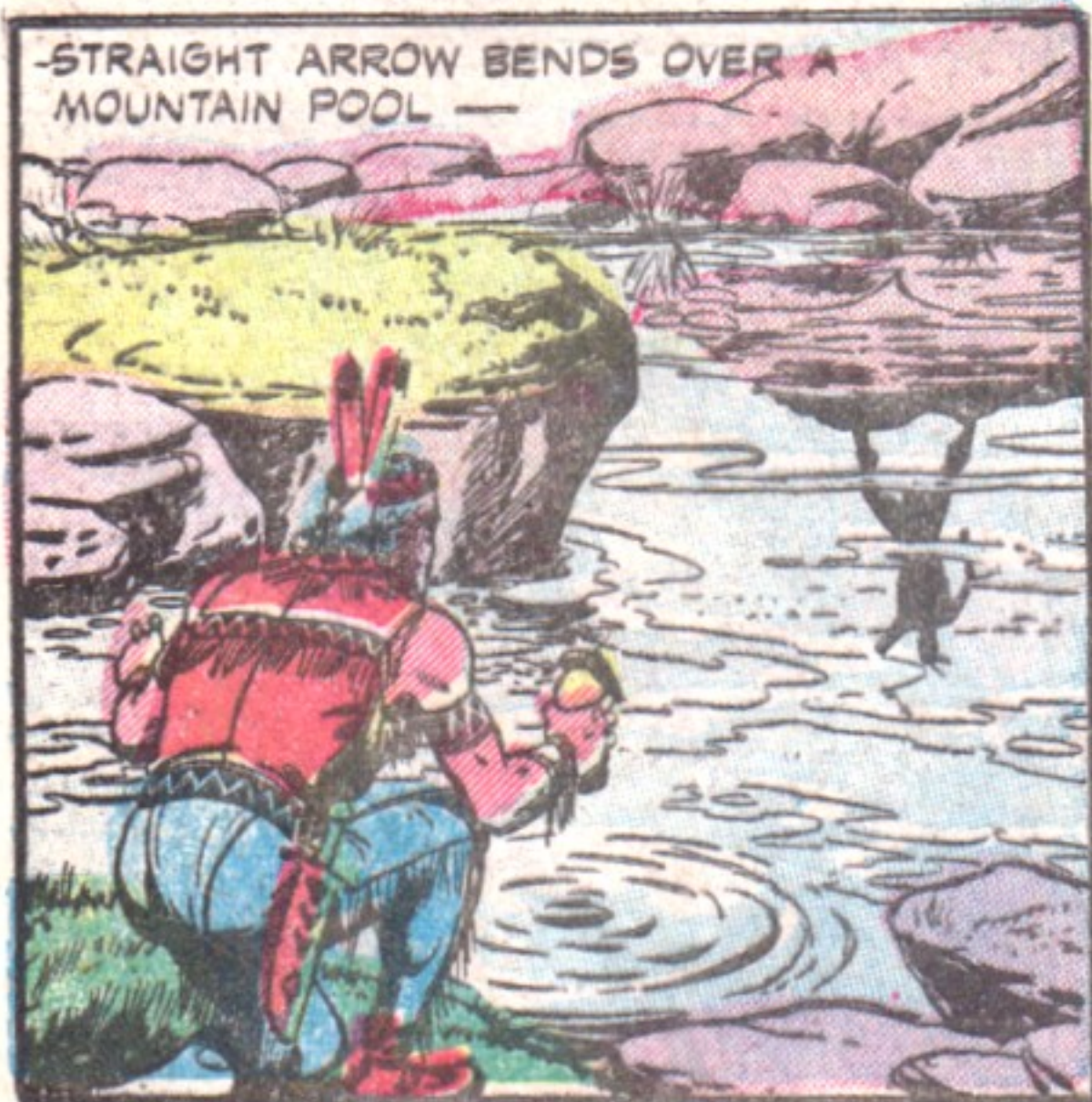


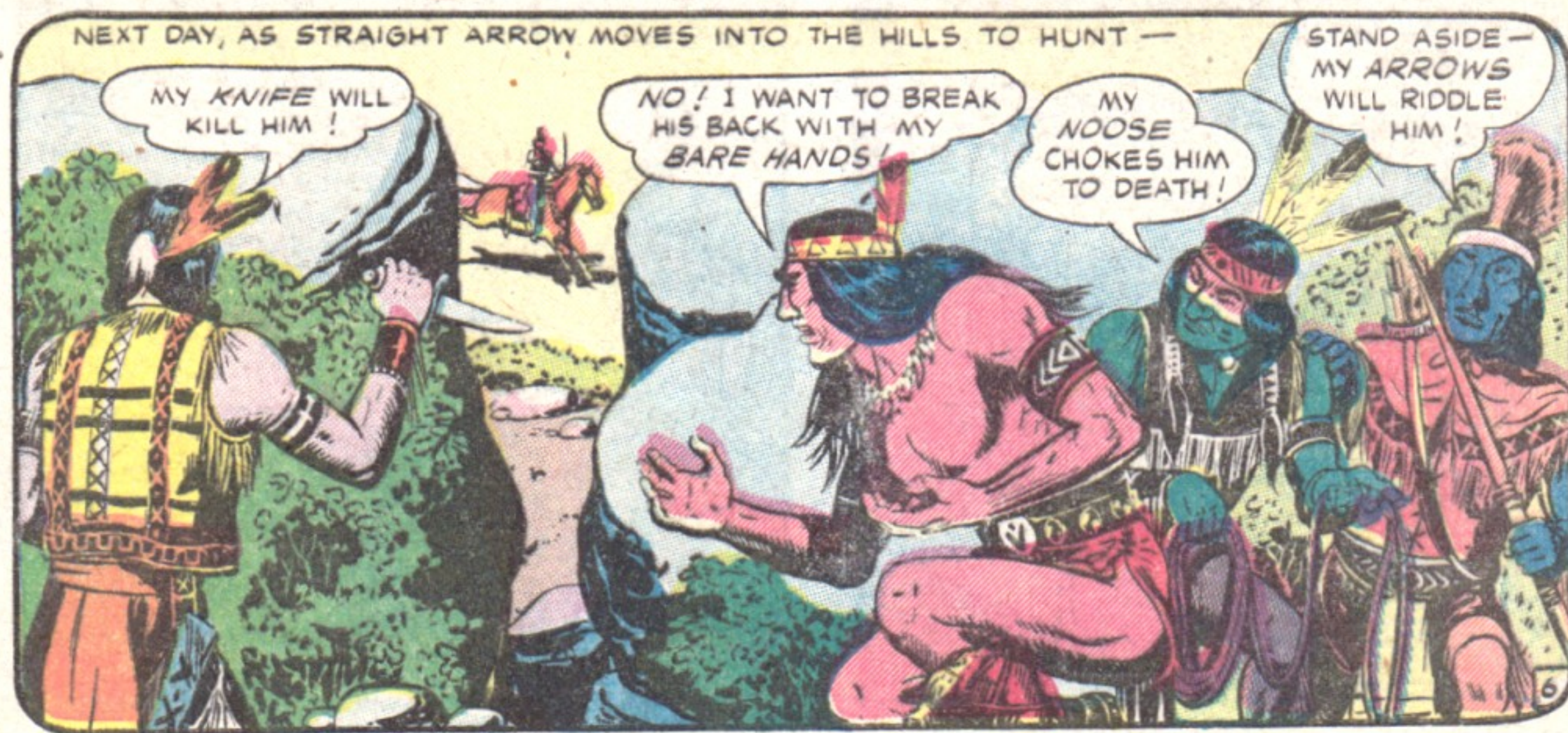
STRAIGHT ARROW HURTLES FORWARD —

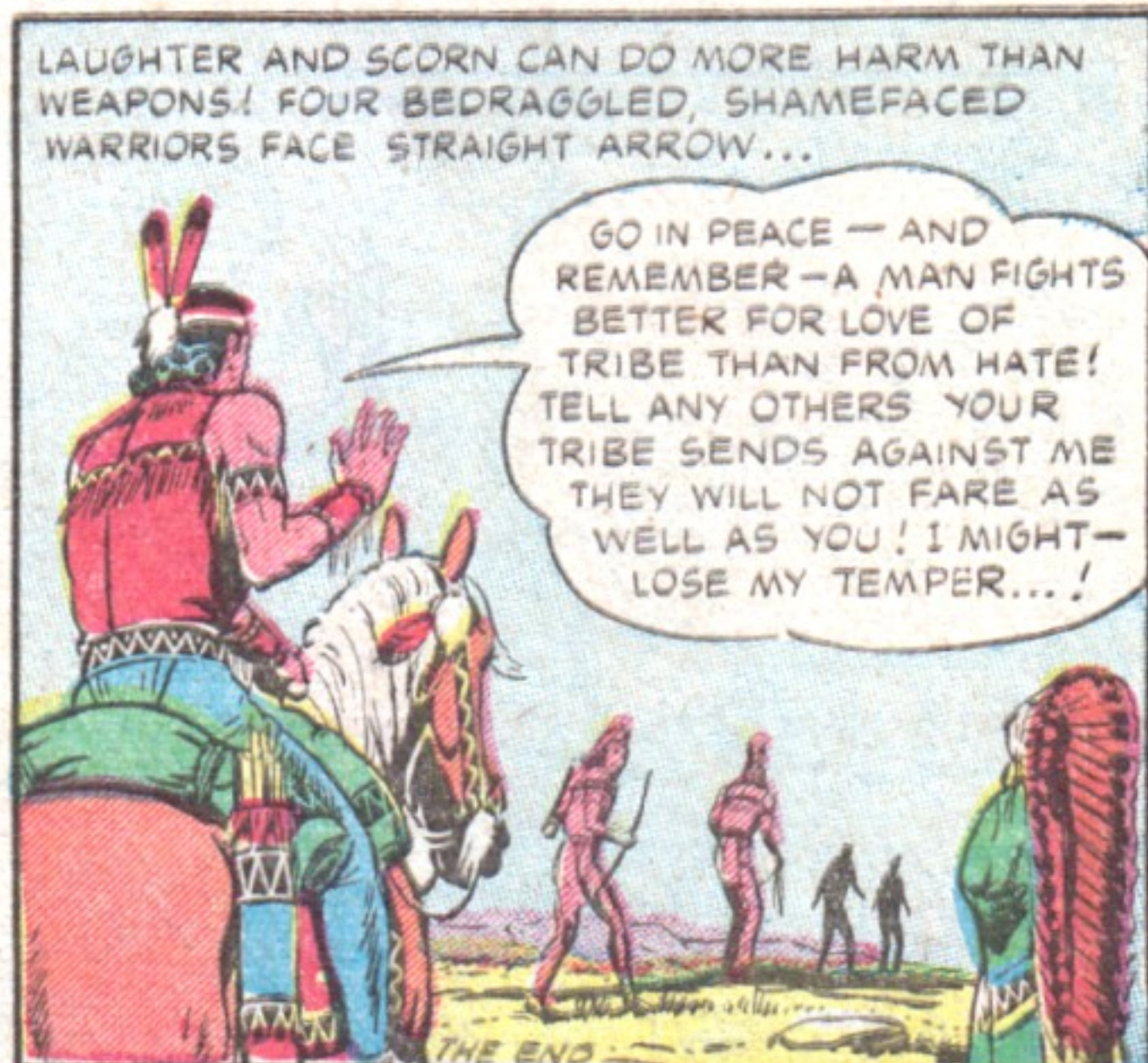


IN MIDAIR THE COMANCHE WAR CHIEF GRASPS BENT DOG'S ARM —









RED HAWK



THIS IS A TALE OF THE LONG AGO, TOLD ON THE HIDE OF A BUFFALO-SKIN TEEPEE IN THE MANNER OF THE PLAINS INDIANS. IT SPEAKS OF AKOLA, THE PANTHER WOMAN, AND THE FIERCE PUMA MEN WHO SLEW FOR HER! IT TELLS ALSO OF YOUNG RED HAWK, AND HOW HE FOUGHT TO KEEP HIS PEOPLE FROM THE AGONIZING DOOM OF—

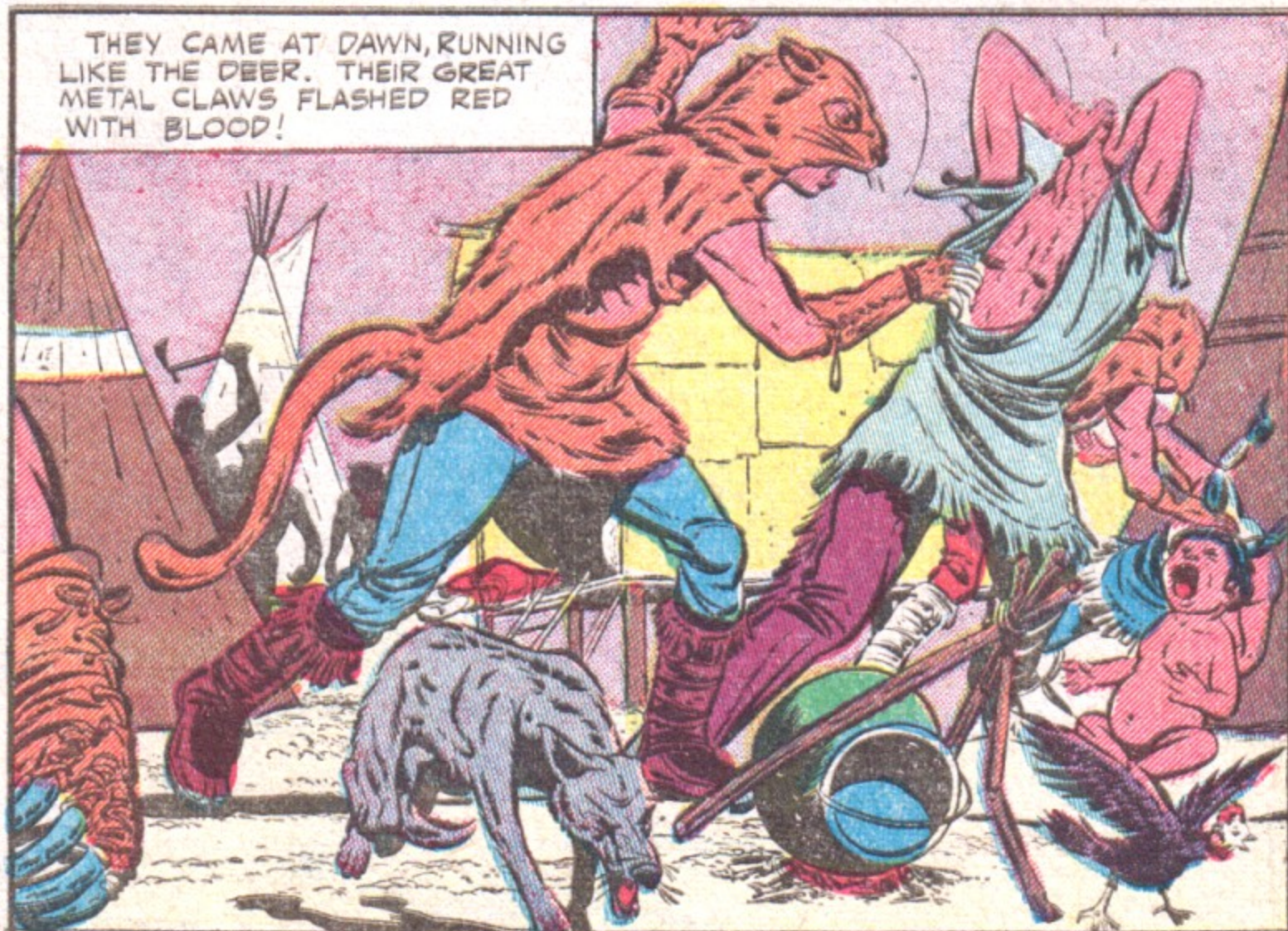
"THE CLAWS OF DEATH!"

Powell

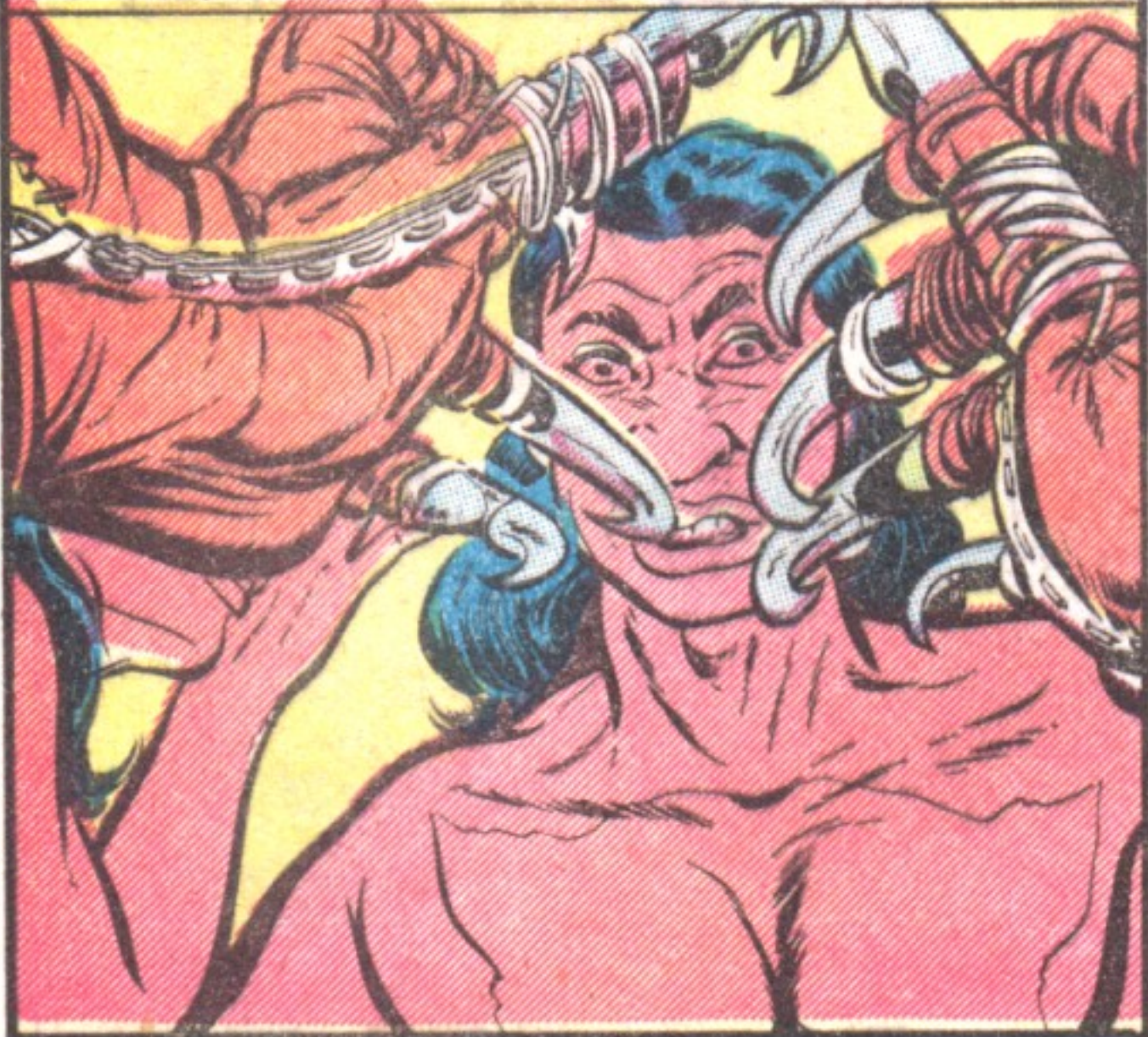
MANY MOONS AGO, (SAYS THE PICTURE WRITING ON THE BUFFALO HIDE), WHEN THE CHEYENNES WERE TRAVELING THROUGH THE COUNTRY OF THE DEEP CANYONS, A BAND OF WARRIORS, WEARING THE MASKS OF PUMAS, AND WITH GREAT METAL HOOKS FASTENED TO THEIR HANDS ATTACKED THEM....!



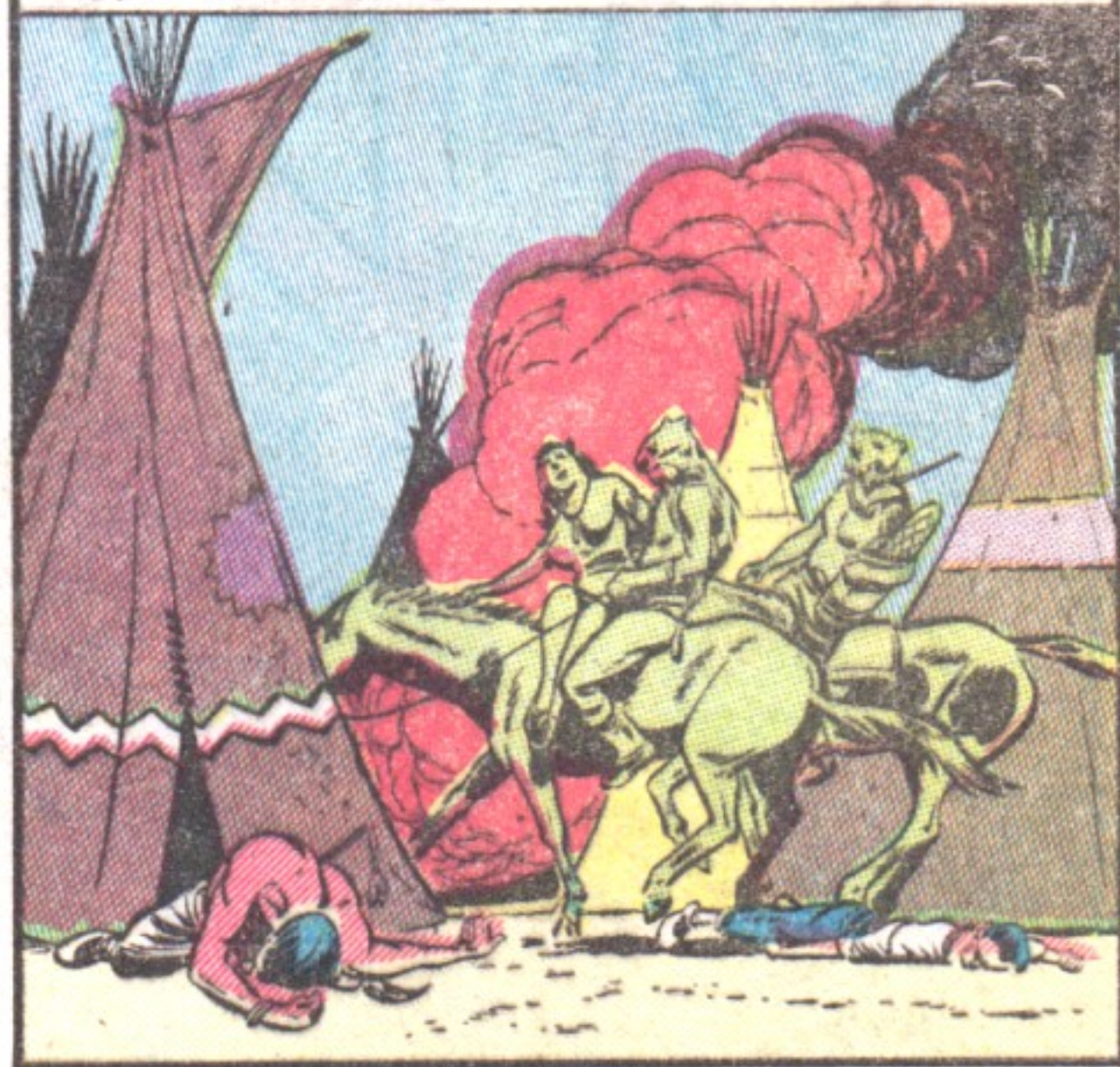
THEY CAME AT DAWN, RUNNING LIKE THE DEER. THEIR GREAT METAL CLAWS FLASHED RED WITH BLOOD!



GLEAMING METAL CLAWS STRUCK DOWN WARRIORS AS THEY WOKE FROM SLUMBER!



SCREAMING CHILDREN AND YOUNG WOMEN WERE CARRIED OFF—

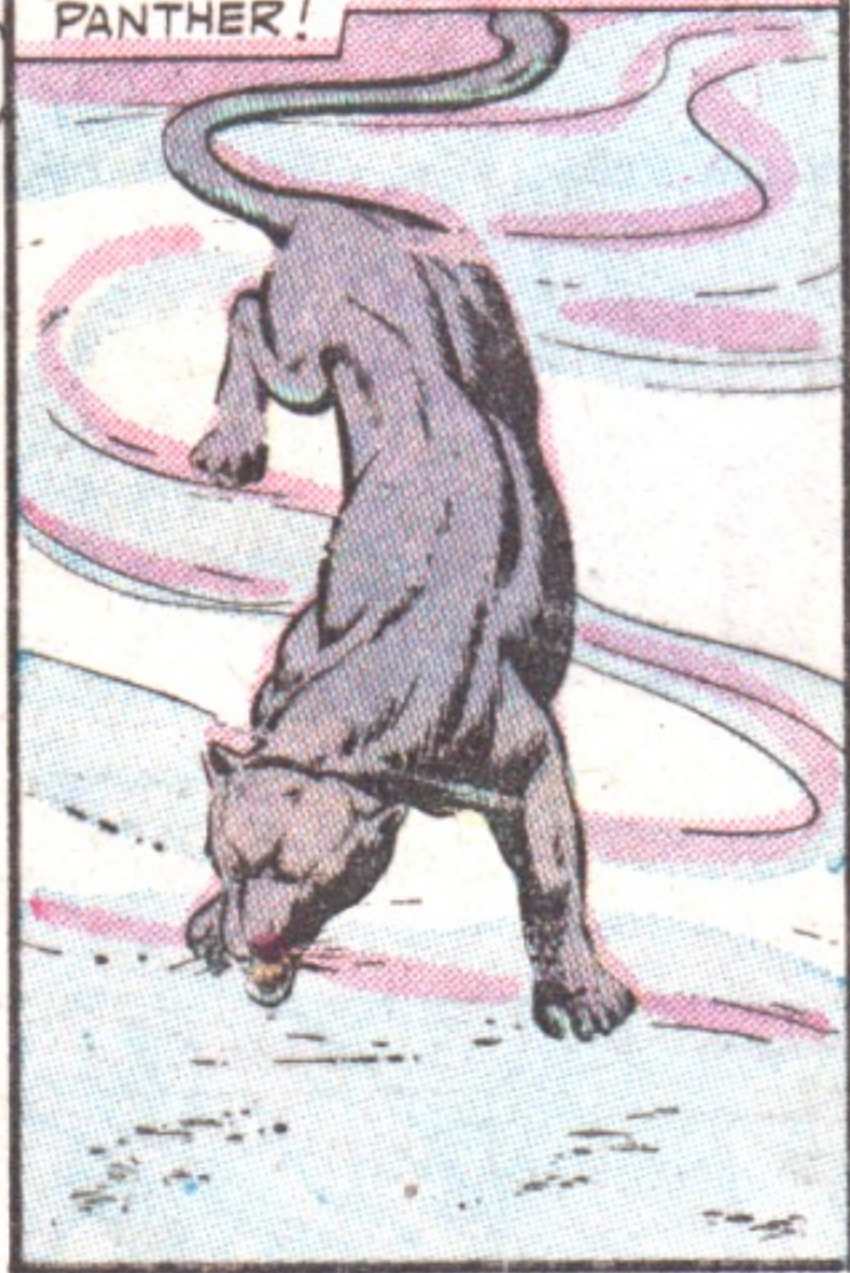


CHEYENNES FOUGHT TO DEFEND THEIR VILLAGE WHEN SUDDENLY A PUMA-WOMAN, WHO LED THE CATMEN IN THEIR ATTACK, CRIED OUT HARSHLY—

I CURSE YOU, MEN OF THE CHEYENNE RACE! I CURSE YOU WITH THE DEATH OF — THE BLACK PANTHER!

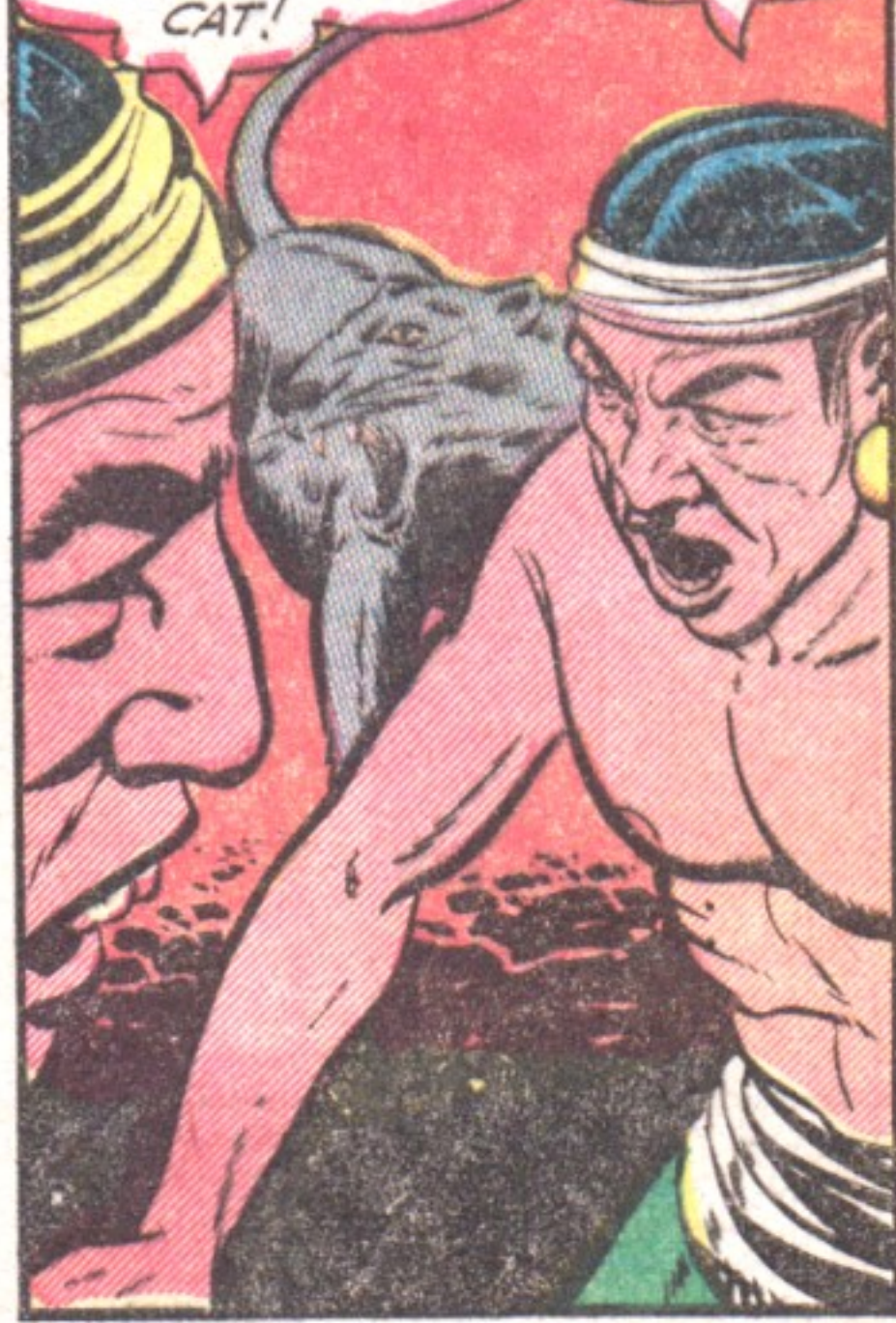


AS THE CHEYENNES STARED IN AWE, THE CAT-WOMAN SEEMED TO DISSOLVE IN MID-AIR! WHERE SHE STOOD, NOW STOOD A GREAT BLACK PANTHER!

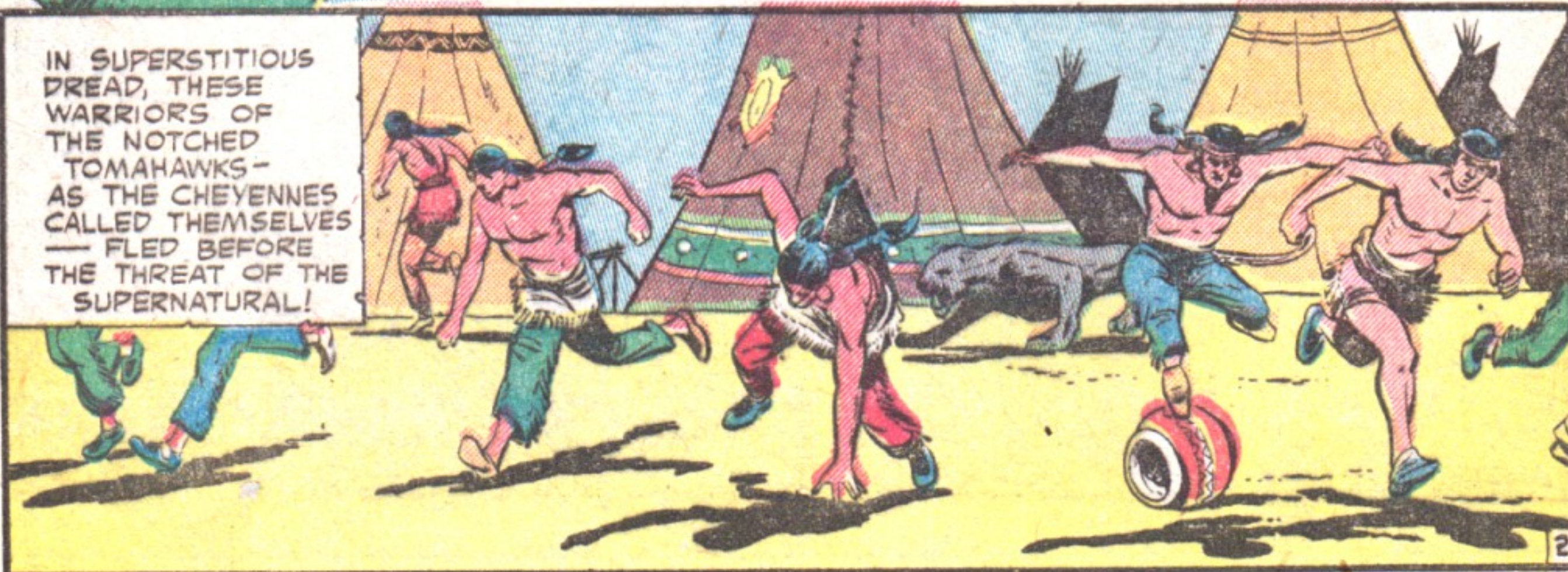


IT IS NO PANTHER! IT IS A WOMAN—TURNED INTO A CAT!

FLEE! FLEE!



IN SUPERSTITIOUS DREAD, THESE WARRIORS OF THE NOTCHED TOMAHAWKS—AS THE CHEYENNES CALLED THEMSELVES—FLED BEFORE THE THREAT OF THE SUPERNATURAL!



WITHIN AN HOUR AFTER THE ATTACK, ONLY TWO REMAINED AMONG THE TEPEES...

THEY TOOK MY BRIDE WITH THEM, RED HAWK! I GO TO GET HER BACK, OR DIE!

THEN I GO WITH YOU, YOUNG BUFFALO!

I GO ALONE, RED HAWK! NO MAN CAN FIGHT THE SPIRITS, AND THAT PANTHER WOMAN IS AN EVIL SPIRIT. YOU STAY WITH THE TRIBE. THEY NEED YOU!

THAT WAS NO SPIRIT WOMAN. IT WAS A TRICK, WHEREBY SHE SEEMED TO CHANGE INTO A PANTHER. ACTUALLY, SHE DID NOT! SAVE YOUR BREATH—I'M COMING ALONG!

ACROSS THE HOT DESERT SANDS THE TWO YOUNG WARRIORS FOLLOWED THE TRAIL OF THE PUMA PEOPLE...



HIGH UP AMONG THE ROCKS OF A GREAT MESA, SLIT EYES WATCHED THEM APPROACH...

TWO WARRIORS, APPROACHING THE CITY OF THE PANTHER! HAI! LET THEM COME. THEY WILL SOON DIE!



YOUNG BUFFALO—BEWARE!

THE PUMA MEN! YOU SAW? THEY SPRANG FROM NOWHERE! THEY ARE NOT MEN! THEY ARE EVIL SPIRITS!



A CLUB FELLED THE SUPERSTITIOUS YOUNG BUFFALO!

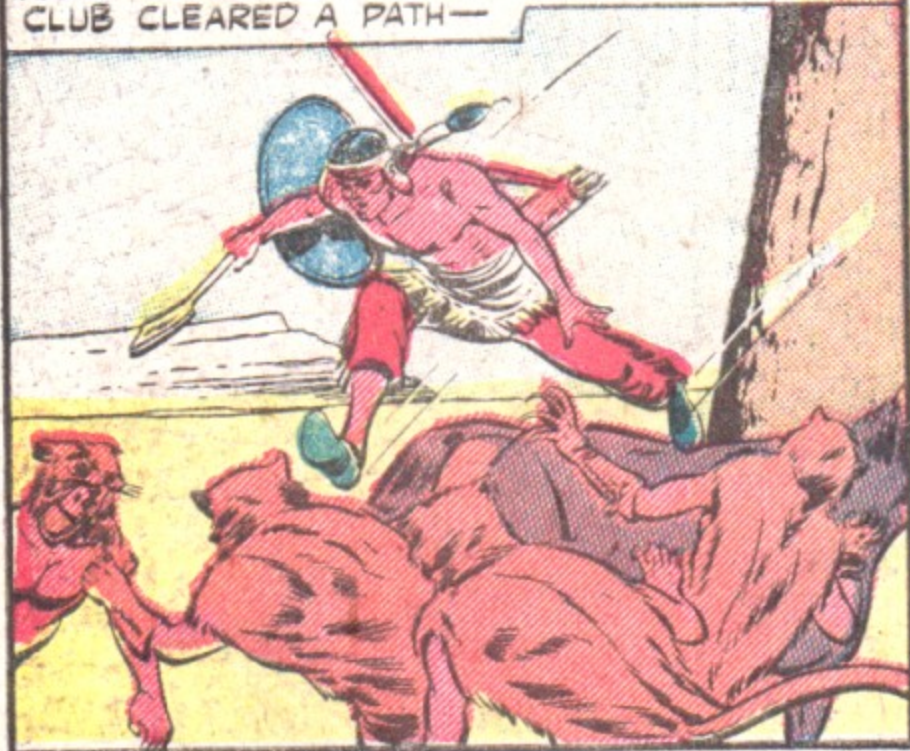


RED HAWK FOUGHT SAVAGELY, BUT THE ODDS WERE TOO GREAT...

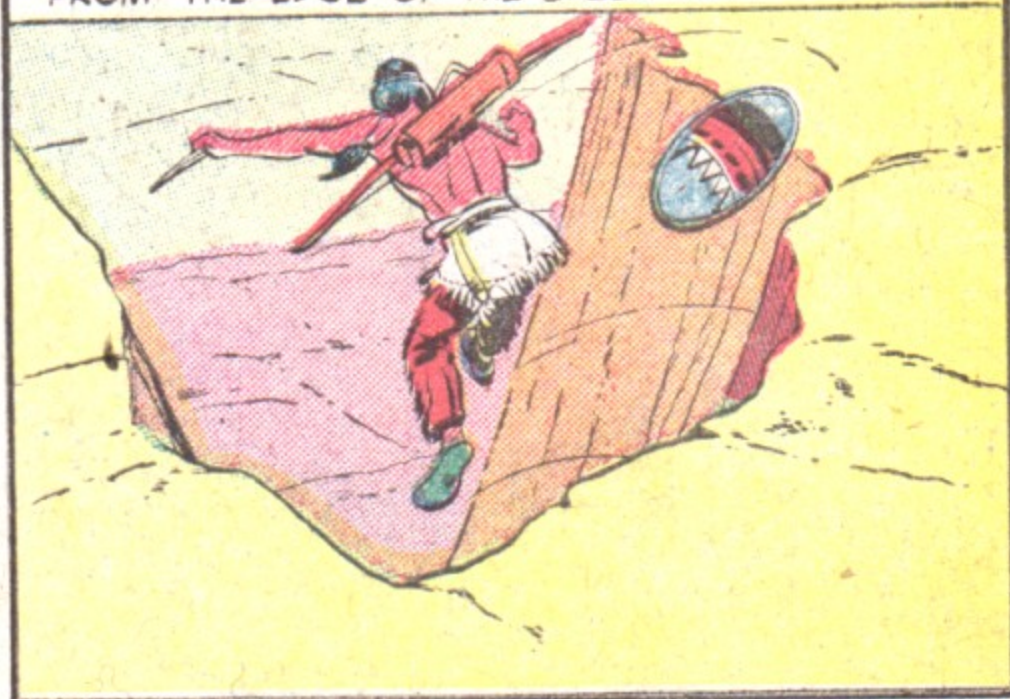
YOU ARE NO SPIRIT MEN—OR IF YOU ARE—YOU ARE THE FIRST SPIRITS I EVER SAW THAT FALL WHEN HIT WITH A WARCLUB!



WITH THE DESPERATION OF THE DOOMED, RED HAWK HURLED HIMSELF FORWARD. HIS FLAILING CLUB CLEARED A PATH—



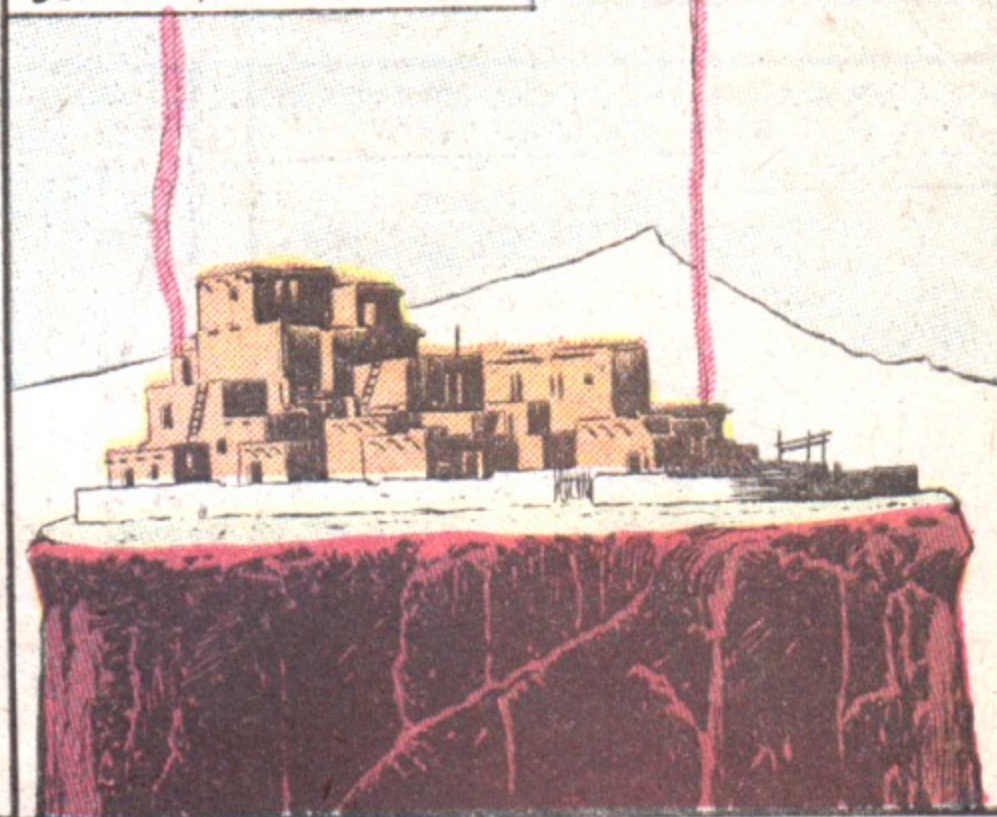
A MOMENT LATER HE LEAPED FAR OUT AWAY FROM THE EDGE OF THE SHEER CLIFF—



THE WATER WILL SAVE ME! THEY WON'T SEE ME AS I SWIM BELOW THE SURFACE...



HIGH UP ON A GREAT STONE MESA STOOD THE CITY OF THE PANTHER PEOPLE! HERE CAME YOUNG BUFFALO, A PRISONER...



NONE COULD APPROACH THE MESA CITY, FOR GUARDS WATCHED THE FLAT PLAINS...

AN ARMY COULD NOT STORM THAT PLACE! WHAT CHANCE DO I HAVE OF RESCUING YOUNG BUFFALO AND THOSE OTHERS?



STILL, THERE MAY BE A CHANCE! IF I CANNOT GO THERE AS A CHEYENNE WARRIOR—I WILL GO IN ANOTHER WAY!



IN THE CITY OF THE PANTHER, YOUNG BUFFALO HELD HIS SOBBING BRIDE...

SOB! THERE IS NO HOPE! WE DIE TOMORROW, AT DAWN!



A GAUNT OLD BUFFALO FELL TO RED HAWK'S BOW. SOMEWHAT LATER—

IF THE PUMA MEN CAN WEAR THE MASKS OF THE PUMA—I CAN USE THE HIDE AND HEAD OF A BUFFALO, TO CONCEAL MY APPROACH!



FROM A DISTANCE, HE SEEMED ONLY A LONE BUFFALO BROWSING HERE AND THERE ON THE SHRUBS OF THE SAGE FLATS—

IF THAT WERE NOT SUCH A SKINNY OLD BUFFALO, I'D GO DOWN AND KILL HIM. BUT HIS MEAT WOULD BE TOO TOUGH!

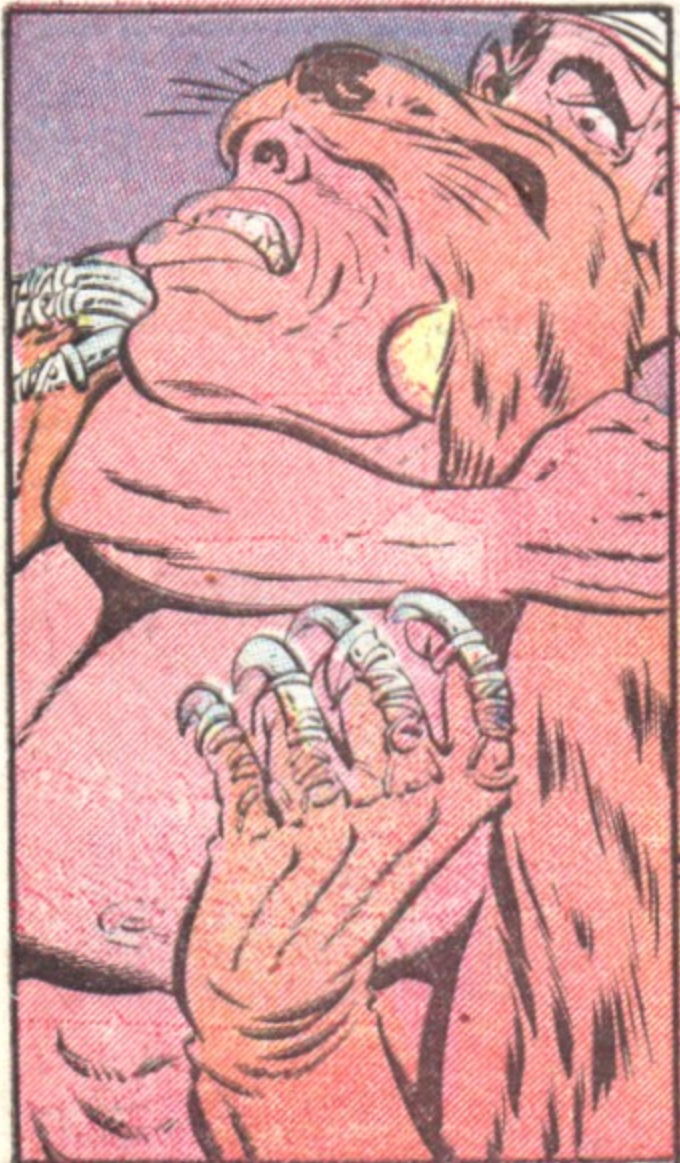


AS NAMPA DA'ATA DREW HIS BLACK CLOAK OVER THE WORLD, AND DARKNESS CAME, RED HAWK THREW OFF HIS ROBE AND BEGAN TO CLIMB...

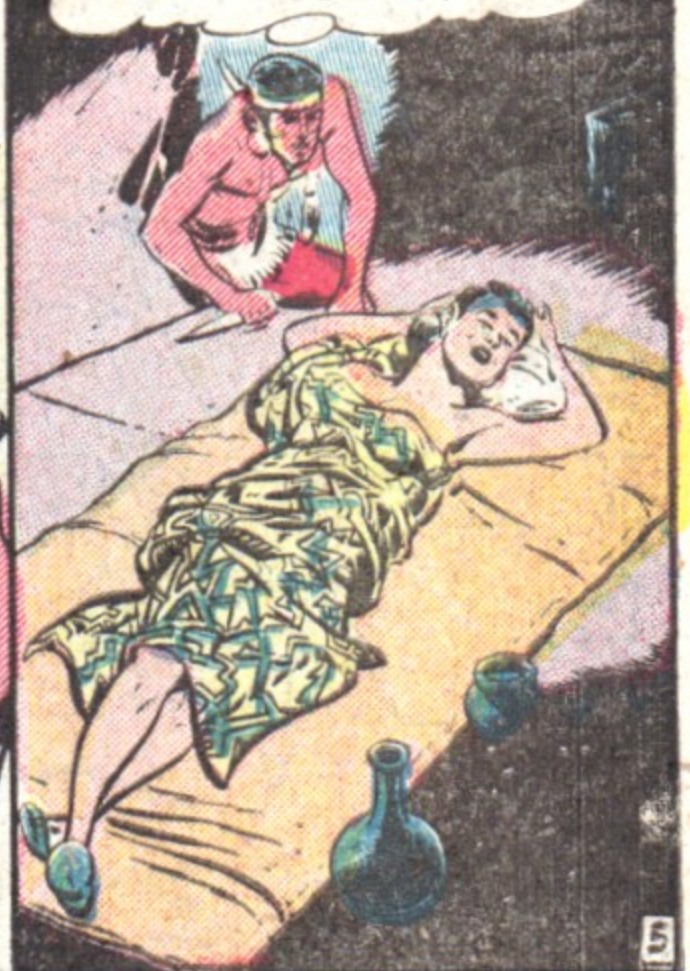


AS SILENT AS THE SERPENT, WAS THE COMING OF RED HAWK! ON NOISELESS FEET, HE DISCOVERED THE PRISON OF HIS PEOPLE...

SSSS! IT IS I—RED HAWK! ARM YOURSELVES WITH THE WEAPONS OF THE DEAD GUARDS. THEN GO QUICKLY DOWN THE PATH! I'VE GOT TO FIND THE CAT-WOMAN!



SHE SLEEPS! THIS WILL MAKE IT EASY, THEN—TO TAKE HER ALONG AS HOSTAGE, FOR THE SAFETY OF MY PEOPLE!



THEN THE BLACK PANTHER MOVED FORWARD FROM THE SHADOWS, ON SOUNDLESS PAWS. HE GATHERED HIS MUSCLES—AND HURLED HIMSELF AT RED HAWK!



WARNED BY THE WIDENING EYES OF THE CAT-WOMAN, RED HAWK TURNED—!



HAVE TO KILL HIM FAST—BEFORE THE PUMA MEN HEAR THE SOUND OF THE FIGHT!



BLEEDING IN A DOZEN PLACES, RED HAWK ROSE TO HIS FEET, AND FORCED THE CAT-WOMAN OUT AHEAD OF HIM...

YOU NEED NOT FEAR DEATH! RED HAWK DOES NOT WAR ON WOMEN! I SEEK ONLY THE LIVES OF MY PEOPLE!



LATER—

YOU SPARE HER LIFE? SHE IS A WITCH!

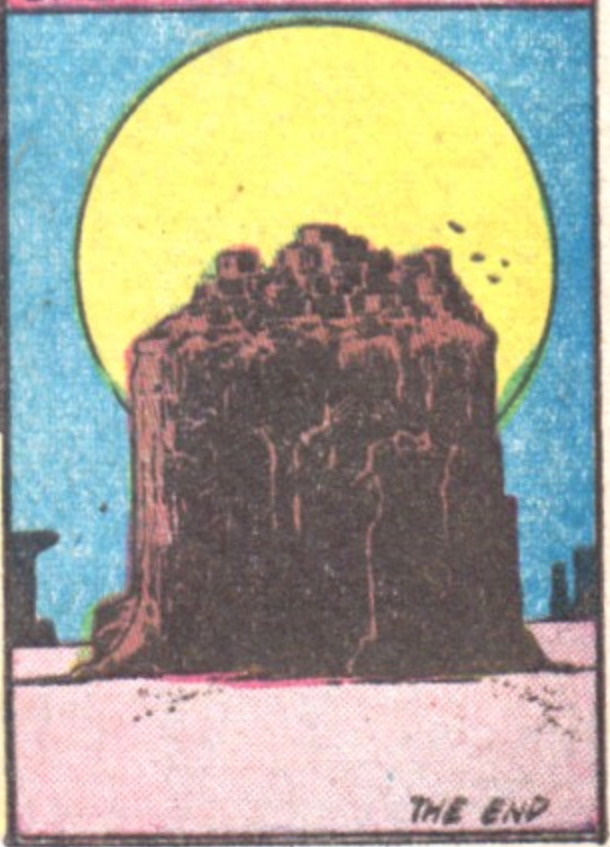
SHE IS NO WITCH—ONLY A CLEVER WOMAN! THE INSIDE OF HER CLOAK WAS COLORED TO LOOK LIKE SAND! AS SHE SANK DOWN AND COVERED HERSELF WITH HER CLOAK—



"SHE BECAME ALMOST INVISIBLE! THE BLACK PANTHER, THAT WAS RIGHT BEHIND HER, WAS SEEN. IT SEEMED AS IF SHE CHANGED INTO A PANTHER, BUT SHE DID NOT!"



AND SO THE CHEYENNES RETURNED TO DESTROY THE EVIL PUMA-MEN, LED BY RED HAWK. TODAY, THE GREAT MESA CITY STANDS UNTENANTED, AN EMPTY COLLECTION OF DESERTED BUILDINGS...



THE END

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6. A Group of Indoor and Outdoor Games
7. An 8-Lesson Course on Drawing Cartoons, Art, Lettering
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2. Decorate your Room - dozens of Charming and Special Ideas
3. Let's have a Party - a guide to successful entertaining
4. Fun Alone - things to do in the privacy of your room
5. Handicraft Projects - instructions for making many things of odds and ends around the home
6. Ride a Hobby For Fun - Guidance for starting a hobby, collecting stamps, shells, buttons, rocks, etc.
7. Magic for Girls - numerous magic stunts and tricks you can perform
8. Fun with Fabrics - how to sew: things to make for yourself
9. Fun with Paper - 101 things to fold and cut of paper
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11. Games to Play Alone - mazes, puzzles, spinning-movies, jig-saw puzzles, pencil games, etc.
12. Games to Play with Friends - checkers, quoits, fan-tan, anagrams, hare and hounds, fishing, statues, skee-ball, etc.
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STRAIGHT ARROW

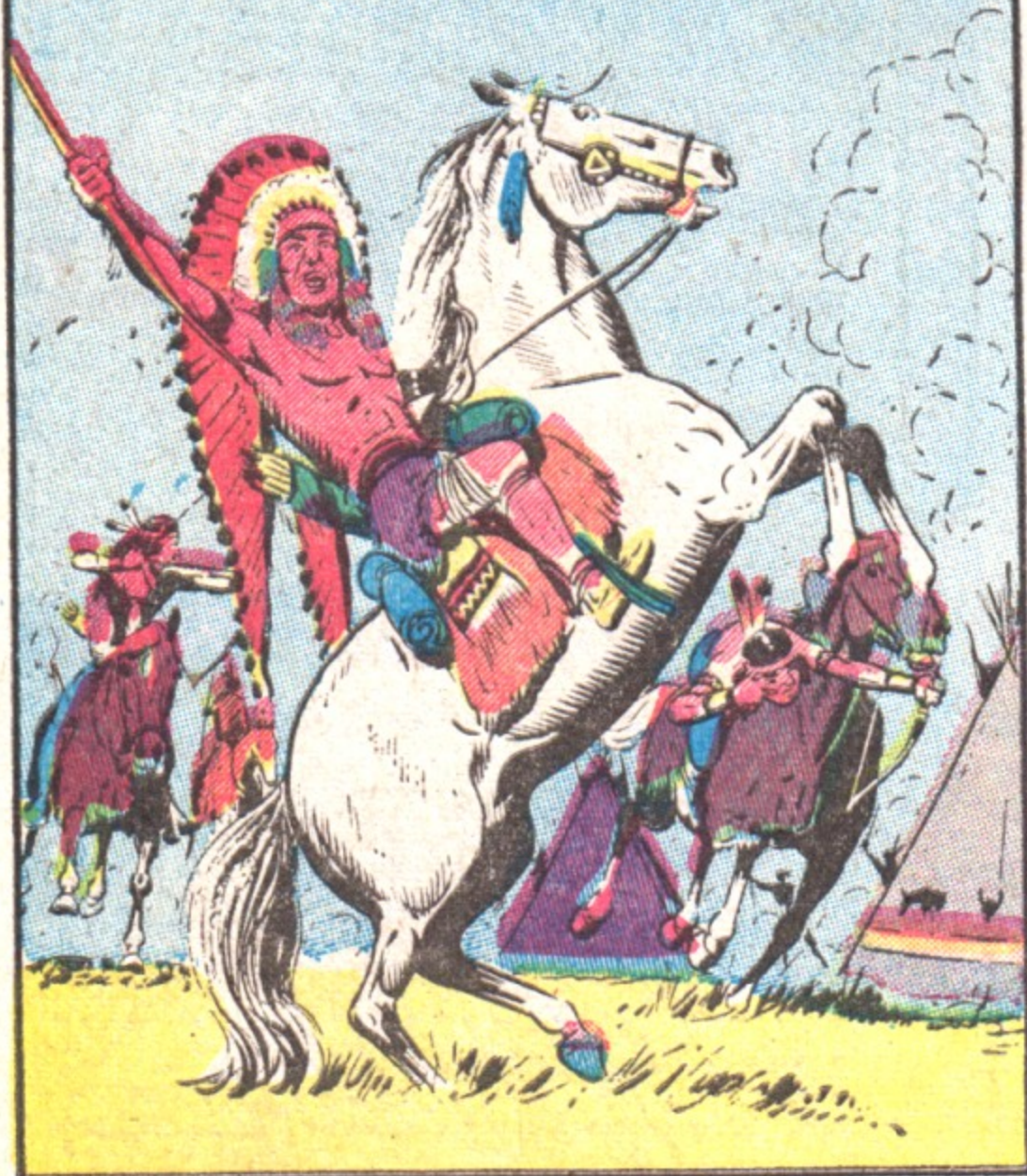
TAKONA WAS NOT A HORSE WARRIOR LIKE OTHER COMANCHES. HE WAS A PIMA, ADOPTED INTO THE TRIBE AS A CHILD, AND WITHIN HIM BLOOMED A LOVE OF THE SOIL, FOR THE GOOD DIRT WOULD GROW MANY FINE THINGS TO EAT! BUT THE NOMAD COMANCHES MOCKED SUCH A ONE... UNTIL **STRAIGHT ARROW** AND TAKONA JOINED FORCES TO PROVE TO ALL-

"THE MANHOOD OF TAKONA"

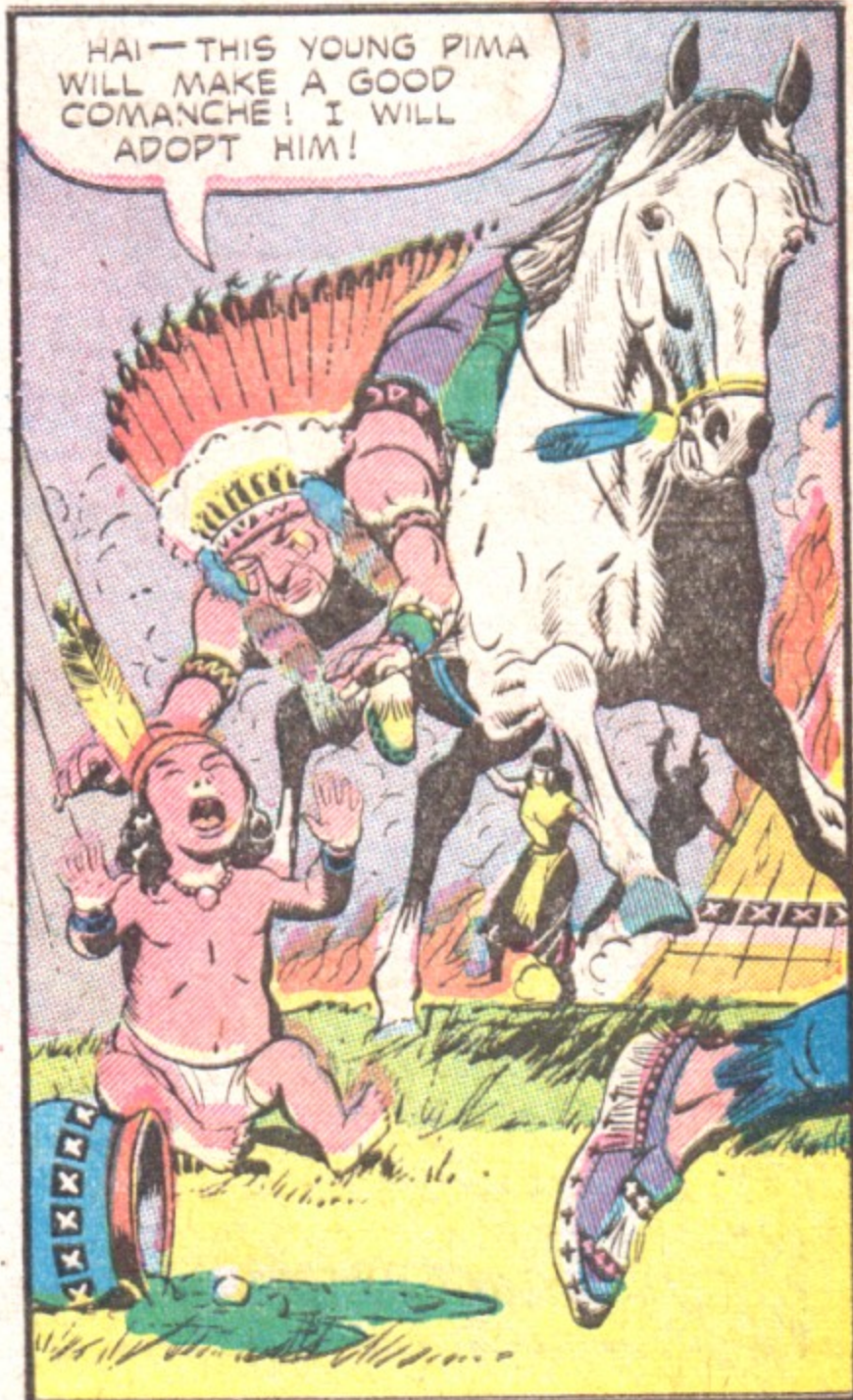
Fred Meagher



COMANCHE RAIDERS — THE FINEST HORSEMEN OF THE PRAIRIES — OFTEN RAIDED THEIR NEIGHBORING TRIBES FOR PONIES AND OTHER PRIZES OF WAR...



HAI — THIS YOUNG PIMA WILL MAKE A GOOD COMANCHE! I WILL ADOPT HIM!



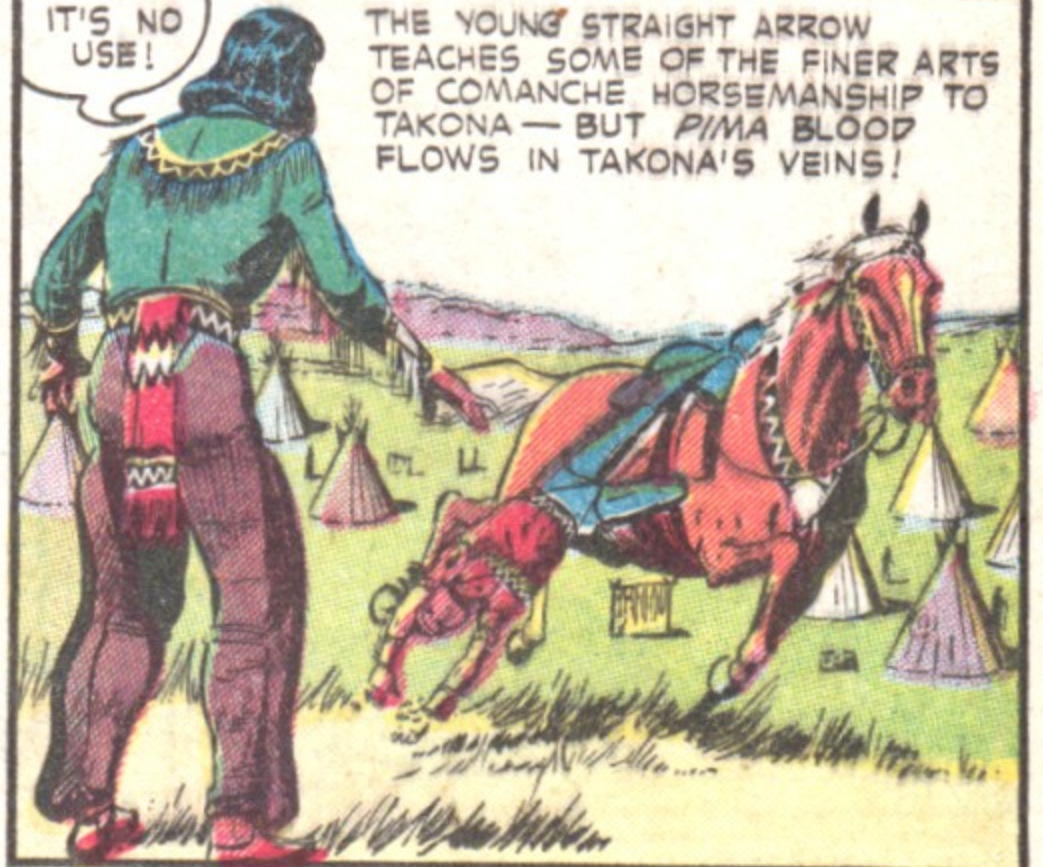


THE YEARS PASS. TAKONA TAKES PART IN THE BOYS' GAMES. HE WINS NO PRIZES— BUT THEN, NOBODY CAN BEAT STRAIGHT ARROW EITHER!



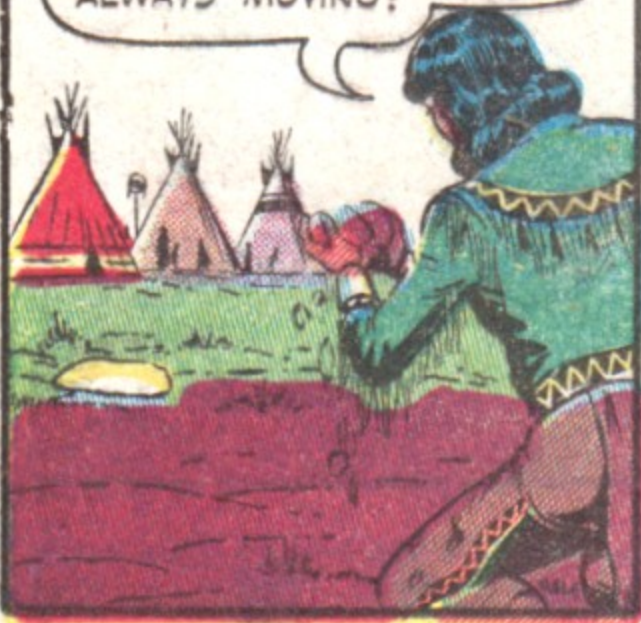
IT'S NO USE!

THE YOUNG STRAIGHT ARROW TEACHES SOME OF THE FINER ARTS OF COMANCHE HORSEMANSHIP TO TAKONA— BUT PIMA BLOOD FLOWS IN TAKONA'S VEINS!



ALWAYS TAKONA'S EYES ARE DRAWN BY THE RICH BROWN EARTH...

THIS WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE FOR A GARDEN— BUT THE COMANCHES ARE NOMADS, ALWAYS MOVING!



ONE DAY, WHEN TAKONA HAS GROWN TO YOUNG MANHOOD, THE TRIBE SETTLES IN A LOVELY VALLEY. HERE, NOT FAR FROM THE WATERS OF AN INLAND LAKE, TAKONA PLANTS HIS SEEDS...



SSSH— SEE THE FARMER WORK! SEE HOW HE SWEATS IN THE SUN! HE IS NO COMANCHE! HE IS STILL A GRUBBY PIMA!



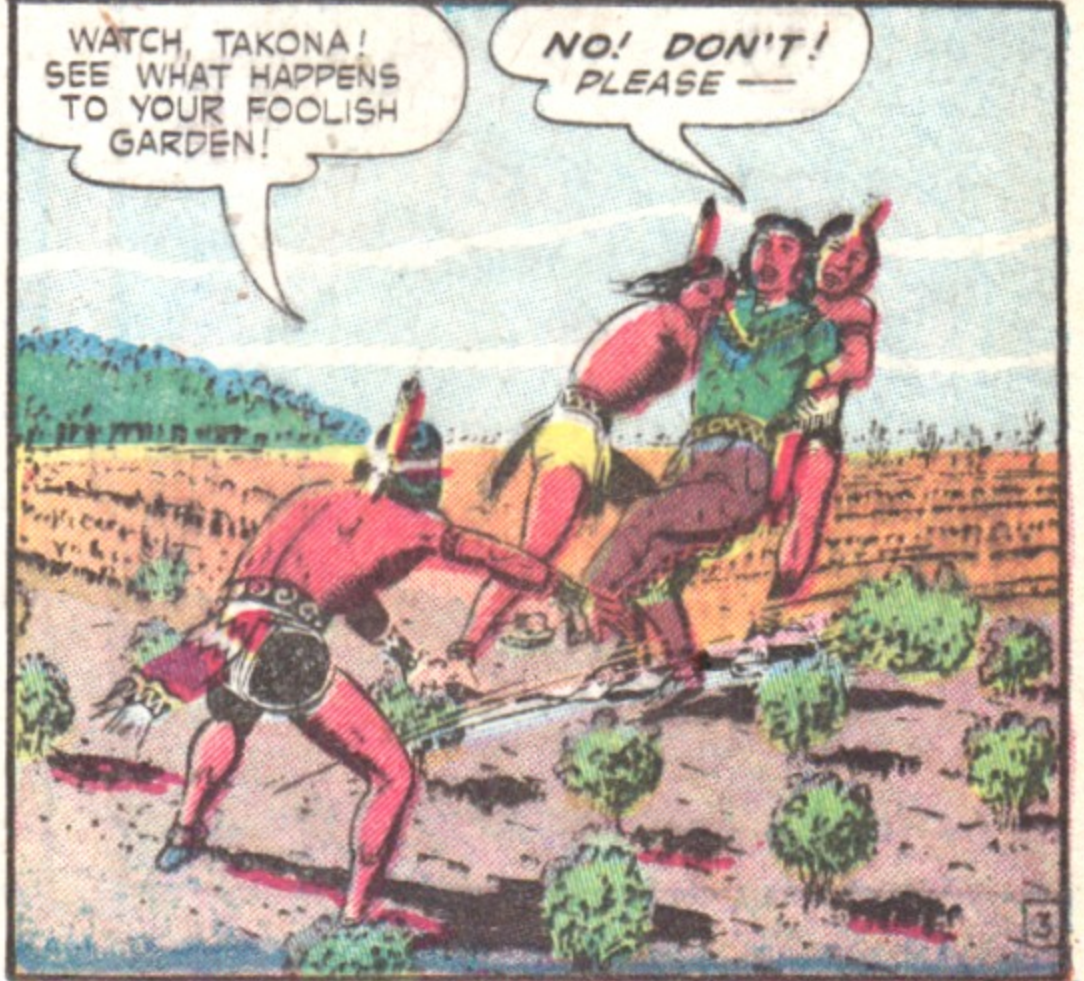
WE WILL BURN HIS GARDEN AND PULL UP THE HERBS HE GROWS— AND STUFF THEM DOWN HIS THROAT!

?

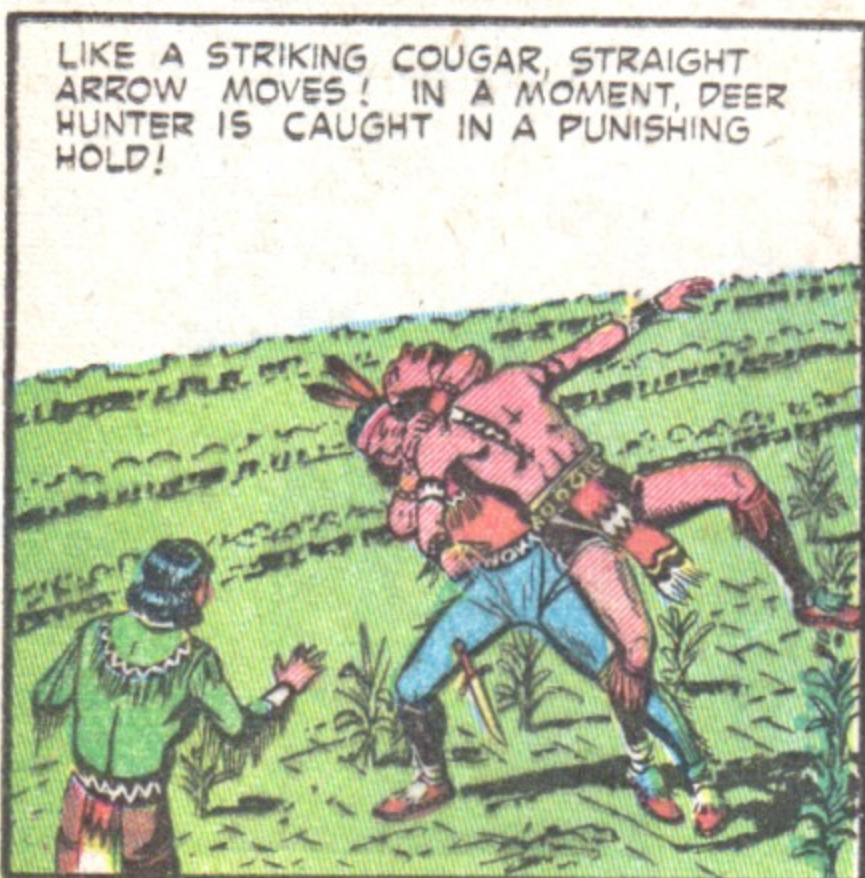


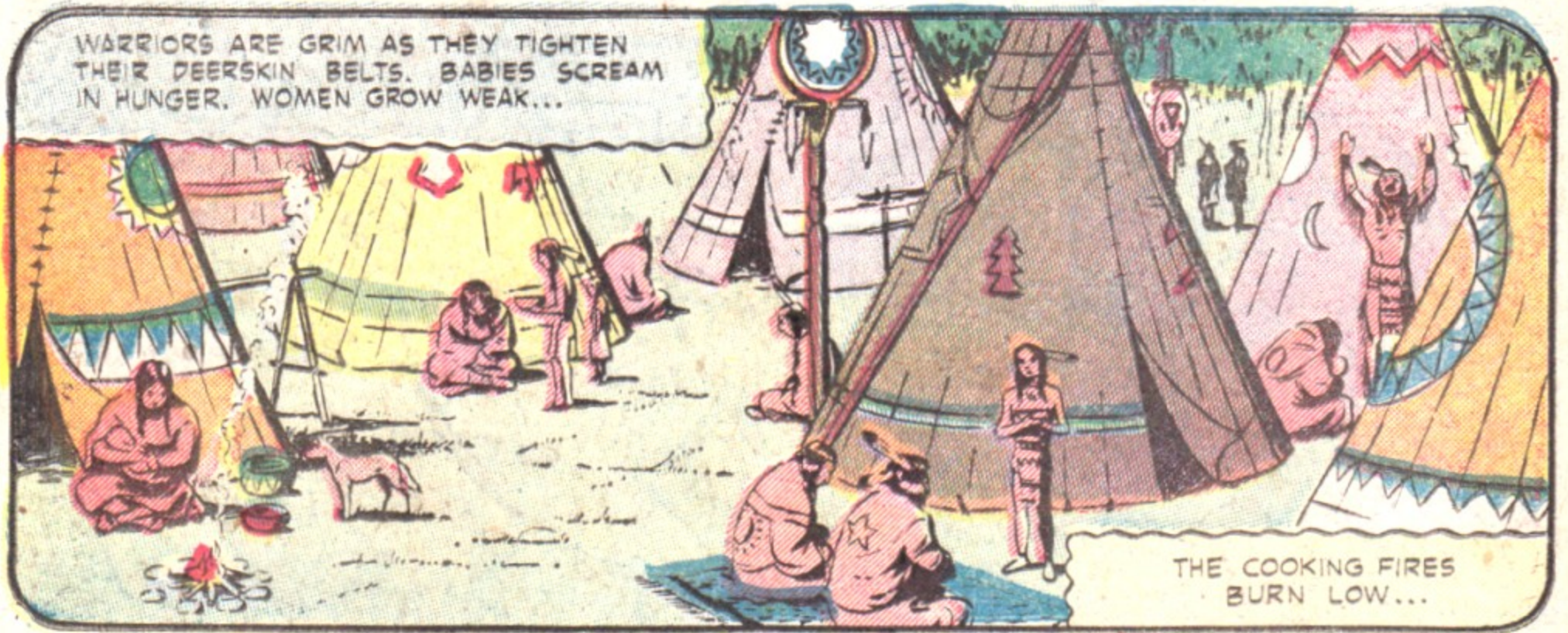
WATCH, TAKONA! SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR FOOLISH GARDEN!

NO! DON'T! PLEASE—



STRAIGHT-ARROW







MAD WITH FURY, DEER HUNTER BROODS IN HIS TEPEE...

STRAIGHT ARROW ALWAYS PROTECTS TAKONA! IF I AM TO HAVE SWIFTFEET, I'VE GOT TO GET TAKONA OUT OF THE WAY—BUT IN SUCH A MANNER THAT STRAIGHT ARROW CANNOT INTERFERE!



FRESH-MADE HONEY! AH! WHAT IS IT THAT THE MEDICINE MAN SAYS? "A MAN CAN CATCH MORE FLIES WITH HONEY THAN WITH VINEGAR!" THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!



FROM THAT DAY ON, DEER HUNTER IS A CHANGED MAN...

I WISH TO MAKE FRIENDS, TAKONA. TAKE THIS HOE I MADE FOR YOU!

WHY—WHY, CERTAINLY, DEER HUNTER!



RECEIVE THIS FINE VENISON IN THANKS FOR FEEDING MY FAMILY DURING THE TIME OF FAMINE!



BUT WHEN STRAIGHT ARROW IS HUNTING IN THE HIGH HILLS...

STRAIGHT ARROW IS NOT HERE TO PROTECT YOU NOW, TAKONA!



TELL STRAIGHT ARROW I DID IT! HE WILL NOT BELIEVE YOU! HE THINKS WE ARE **FRIENDS**!

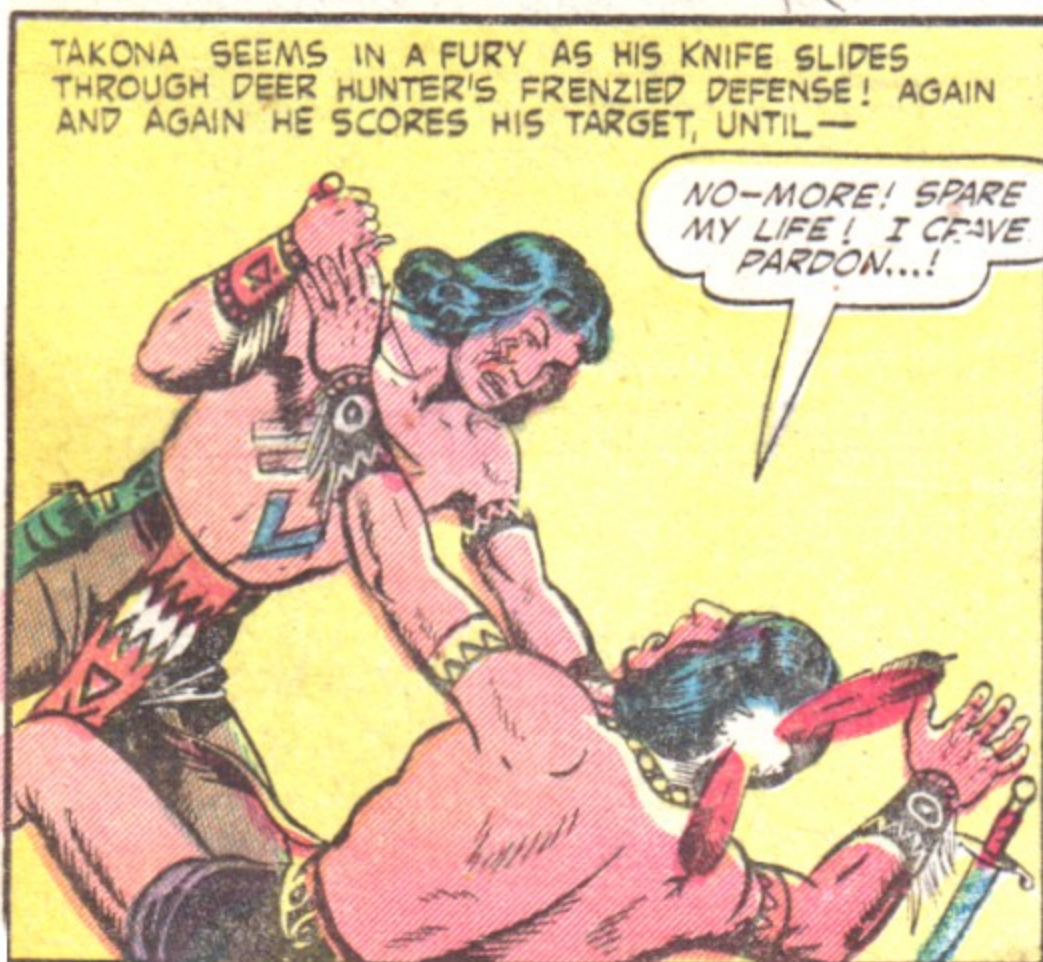
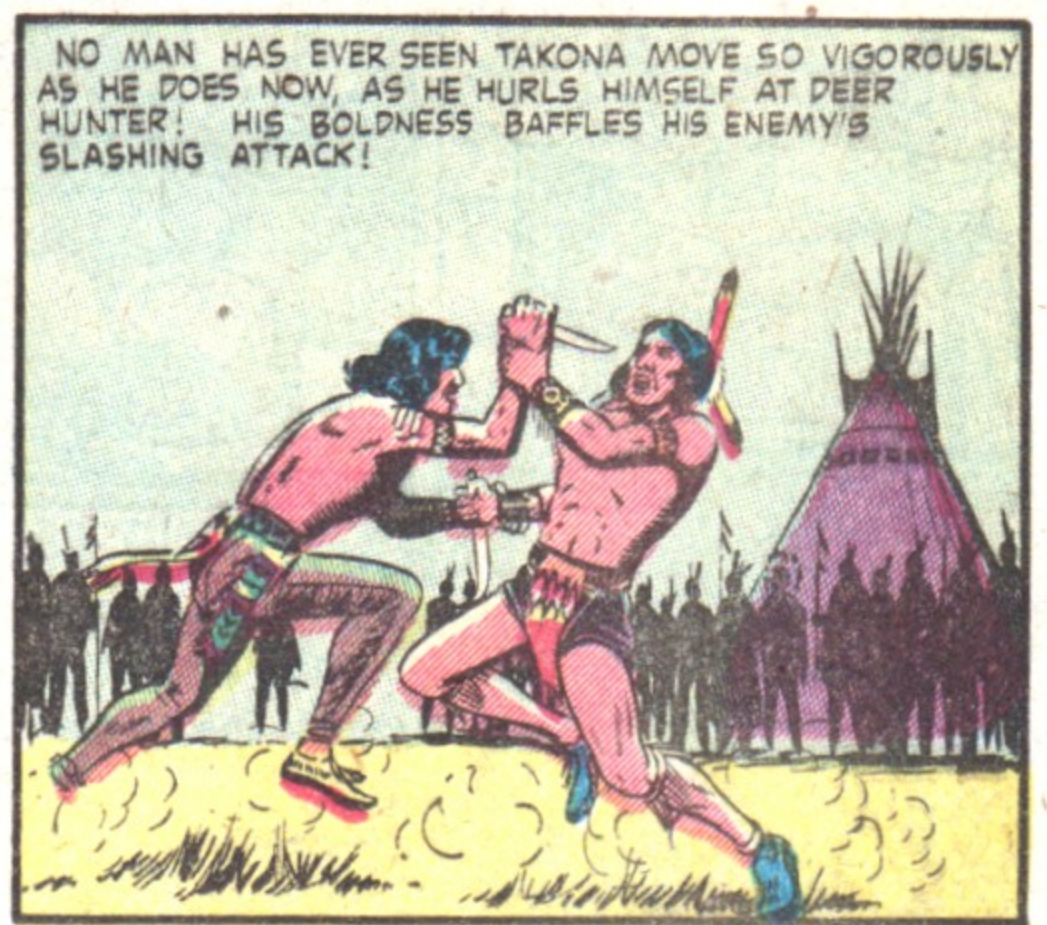
MY GARDEN?!
NO! NO!



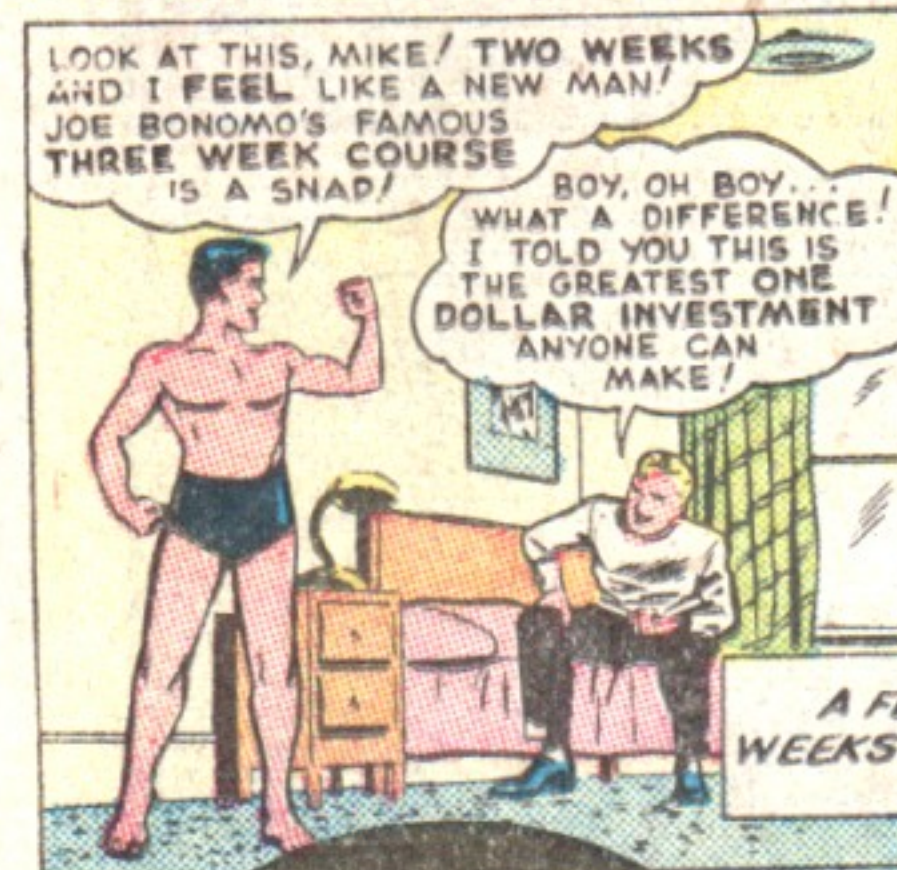
SWIFTFEET DOES NOT LIKE **COWARDS**, TAKONA! AND DEER HUNTER TELLS ME **YOU** ARE A COWARD! YOU GET STRAIGHT ARROW TO FIGHT YOUR BATTLES FOR YOU!

BUT... BUT...??





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Take orders for Nationally-advertised, Velvet-eez Air-Cushion Shoes in 150 dress, sport, work styles for men and women. Air-Cushion Inner-sole gives wonderful feeling of "walking on air" all day long. As the Mason man in your town, you actually feature more shoes in a greater range of sizes and widths than the largest store in town! And at low, direct-from-factory prices! It's easy to fit customers in the style they want—they keep re-ordering, too—put dollars and dollars into your pocket! Join the exceptional men who make up to \$200 extra a month and get their family's shoes and garments at wholesale prices!

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Chippewa Falls, Wisc.



LOOK

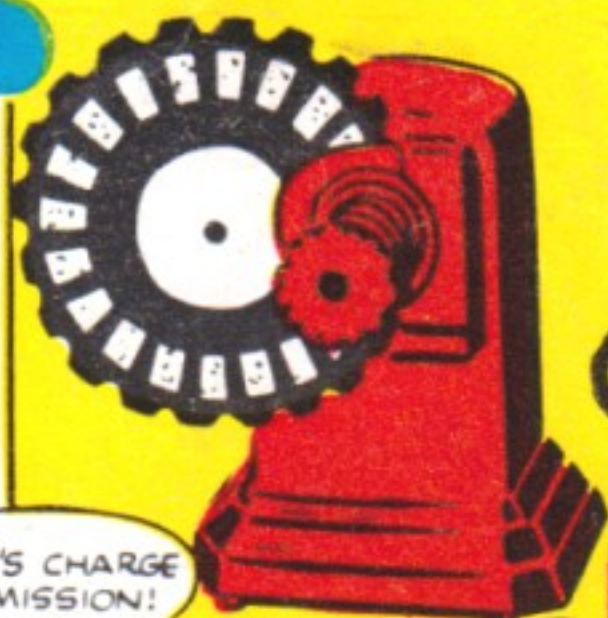
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4 WONDER

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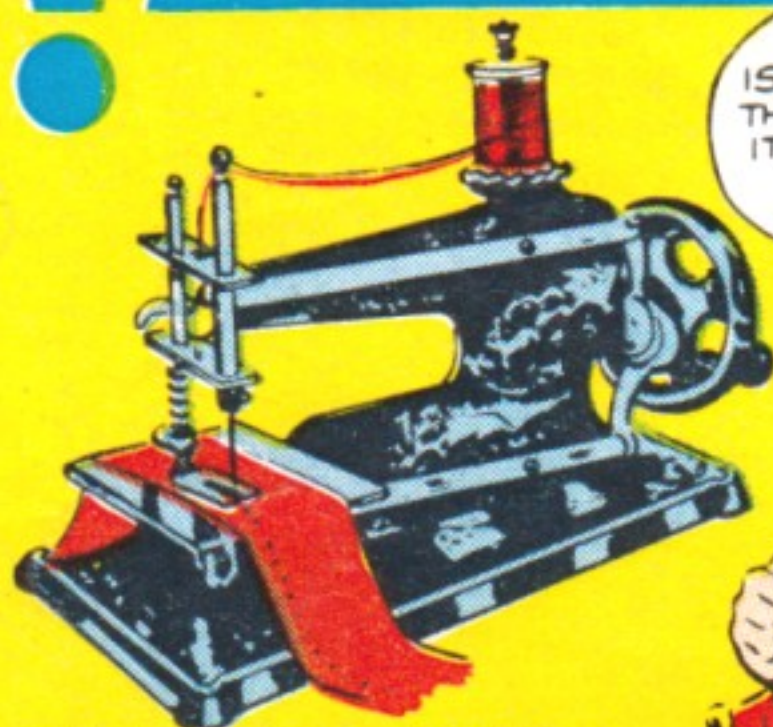


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READY FOR ACTION
NOW YOU CAN MAKE MANY LOVELY DRESSES FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR DOLLS, OR MAKE EXTRA MONEY SELLING THINGS YOU MAKE! COMPLETE WITH TABLE CLAMP, SPOOL, THREAD AND NEEDLE.

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I'M TERRIFIC!

- HE'S OVER 19" TALL!
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HEY KIDS — HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BECOME A MASTER VENTRILOQUIST—IN A JIFFY! IMAGINE — YOU CAN MAKE HAPPY THE COWBOY ACTUALLY TALK! (IN YOUR OWN VOICE, OF COURSE.) PULL THE STRING IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD — WATCH HIS LIPS MOVE — HEAR YOUR OWN WORDS COMING RIGHT OUT OF HAPPY'S MOUTH! SEE HOW REAL HE LOOKS—RIGGED UP IN A COWBOY HAT, WASHABLE PLAID SHIRT AND WESTERN PANTS — SHOW OFF YOUR SKILL AT PARTIES — AT SCHOOL!



IMAGINE! ONLY

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COMPLETE

4! LIFE LIKE SANDY



HELLO
I'M SANDY!
I DRINK, I WET,
I SLEEP, AND YOU
CAN WAVE MY
HAIR, TOO!

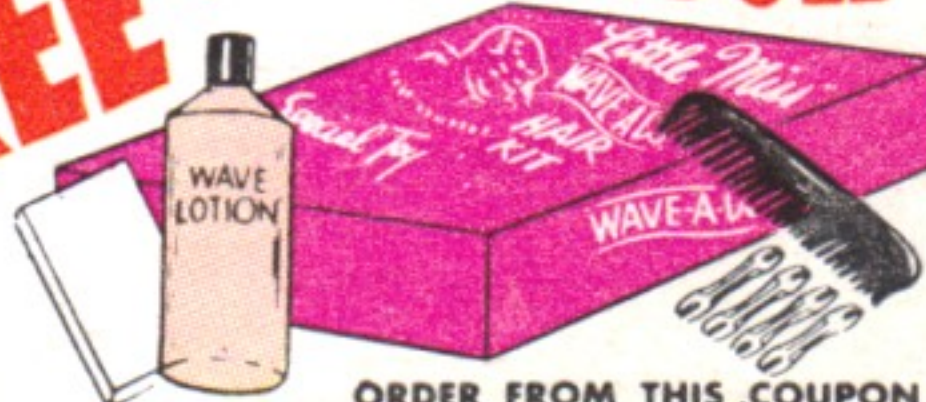
THE NEWEST IN NEAR-HUMAN DOLLS

SHE HAS WONDER SKIN — JUST LIKE A REAL BABY'S... LIFE-LIKE HAIR! SHE CAN DRINK, WET, SLEEP, AND HAVE HER HAIR WAVED!

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